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SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL



REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR

1961

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J. F. DAVIDSON,

O.B.E., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

County Medical Officer of Health.



## PRINCIPAL CONTENTS

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE  
OF THE SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Twenty-fifth Annual Report on the Public Health Services of Somerset.

The statistical details required by the Ministry of Health are given fully, and, in addition, the Report carries information about the many branches of the work carried out by this Department.

Generally, the standard of health and well-being of the people of Somerset, and, particularly of the County's children remains at a high level.

Despite the wide scope of the official services, there still remain many opportunities for voluntary help. In this, in Somerset, we are especially fortunate, and I acknowledge gratefully the valuable assistance the Department has received from many voluntary organisations and from individuals.

In our personal relations with the other medical services in the County, we continue to receive, and, I hope, to give, a high measure of co-operation and understanding and, on this happy relationship, the Health Services of Somerset go forward smoothly and efficiently.

I acknowledge once again, but certainly no less sincerely, the loyal work of the Staff of the Department, and I am also indebted to the other Departments of the County Council for their ready help at all times.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

J. F. DAVIDSON,

County Medical Officer

of Health.

County Hall,  
Taunton.

November, 1962.

## STAFF

The following are the Senior Public Health Officers:-

### **CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF :**

*County Medical Officer of Health:*

*Principal School Medical Officer:*

J. F. DAVIDSON, O.B.E., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Deputy County Medical Officer of Health:*

*Deputy Principal School Medical Officer:*

\* L. FAY, M.D., D.P.H. (retired 31st December, 1961)

*Senior Medical Officer for Maternal and Child Welfare:*

B. MARY THOMPSON, M.D., D.P.H.

*Assistant County Medical Officer:*

W. MARGARET BOND, M.B., B.S., D.C.H., D.Obst.R.C.O.G.

*Senior Medical Officer for Mental Health:*

VACANCY

*Chief Dental Officer:*

QUENTIN A. DAVIES, L.D.S., R.C.S.(Eng.)

*County Public Analyst:*

JOAN D. PEDEN, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

*County Health Inspector:*

C. E. WATERFALL, M.I.P.H.E., M.A.P.H.I.

*Chief Administrative Officer:*

R. F. COTTRELL, D.P.A.

*County Ambulance Officer:*

R. S. J. BISHOP, D.P.A., F.I.A.O.

*Mental Health Officer:*

A. H. EDWARDS, D.P.A., F.C.C.S.

*County Nursing Officer:*

MISS J. E. NOBES, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., Q.N. (retired 31st July, 1961)

MISS E. J. GILLERAN, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., Q.N.,(from 1st August, 1961)

*Home Help Organiser:*

MISS L. C. E. CHALK

### **AREA STAFF :**

P. P. FOX, M.B., Ch.B.,  
D.P.H.

*Area Medical Officer and Divisional School Medical Officer, Yeovil Area (also Medical Officer of Health, Yeovil Borough and Yeovil Rural District).*

D. MCGOWAN, M.B., Ch.B.,  
D.P.H.

*Area Medical Officer and Divisional School Medical Officer, Weston-super-Mare Area (also Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Weston-super-Mare, Axbridge Rural District).*

\* L. FAY, M.D., D.P.H.  
(retired 31st December, 1961)

R. H. G. H. DENHAM, M.D.,  
D.P.H.

R. H. WATSON, M.B., Ch.B.,  
B.A.O., D.P.H.

A. M. McCALL, M.R.C.S.,  
L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

*Area Medical Officer and Divisional School Medical Officer, Taunton Area (also Medical Officer of Health, Taunton Borough).*

*Assistant County Medical Officer, Bathavon Area (also Medical Officer of Health, Frome Urban and Rural, Bathavon Rural, Keynsham Urban).*

*Assistant County Medical Officer and Divisional School Medical Officer, Bridgwater Area (also Medical Officer of Health, Bridgwater Borough, Bridgwater Rural and Burnham-on-Sea Urban).*

*Assistant County Medical Officer, Langport Area (also Medical Officer of Health, Chard Borough Ilminster Urban, Crewkerne Urban, Langport and Chard Rurals).*

## COMMITTEES

The following are concerned in matters of public health:—

HEALTH COMMITTEE: and its Sub-Committees for: Midwifery and Nursing Services, Ambulance Service, Water Supplies and Sewage Disposal, Mental Health Services, and Milk.

## SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres): 1,026,047

Population (1961): 520,340

Live Births —

Number: 8,215	Rate per 1,000 population: 15.79
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Illegitimate Live Births — Number: 372	Rate per cent of total live births: 4.53
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Stillbirths —

Number: 151	Rate per 1,000 live and still births: 18.05
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Total Live and Still Births: 8,366

Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year): 130

Infant Mortality Rates —

Total Infant deaths per 1,000 total live births: 15.82	
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Legitimate infant deaths — Number: 125	Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births: 15.93
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Illegitimate infant deaths — Number: 5	Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births: 13.45
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Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks) — Number: 89

	Rate per 1,000 total live births: 10.83
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Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week) — Number: 73

	Rate per 1,000 total live births: 8.89
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Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined) — Number: 224

	Rate per 1,000 total live and still births: 26.77
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Maternal Mortality (including abortion) —

Number of deaths: 1	Rate per 1,000 total live and still births: 0.12
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Among the chief causes of death were heart diseases (2,512), cancer and other forms of malignant disease (1,121), bronchitis and pneumonia (537), and motor vehicle and other accidents (196).

The essential statistical returns covering births, infantile mortality and deaths are given in Tables 4 - 9.

**BIRTHS.** The number of live births for the year was 8,215, which gives a rate of 15.79 per thousand population as compared with 15.96 for 1960. As will be noted from Table 8 the birth rate for England and Wales for 1960 was 17.4, but for true comparison purposes the Somerset figure has to be adjusted to make approximate allowances for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the Somerset population varies from that of England and Wales. The adjusted figure for births for Somerset is 16.58.

**DEATHS.** The death rate at 12.77 is slightly lower than for the previous year 12.78. The rate for England and Wales is 12.0, and to compare the Somerset figures with the country's rate it has to be adjusted in the same way as the birth rate. After adjustment the comparable Somerset rate is 11.11.

## PREVENTION OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Table 9 gives details of notified cases of infectious diseases and their distribution, with comparative figures for the previous year. Again we have no cases of diphtheria.

**POLIOMYELITIS.** The confirmed cases numbered 6 compared with 6 for 1960 and 10 for 1959. A report on the vaccination scheme is given later in this Report.

**VENEREAL DISEASE.** The usual table is given below and shows the number of new cases at various centres in the County during 1961.

V.D.	NEW CASES			Increase or decrease during 1961
	1959	1960	1961	
Bath	3 (16)	14 (55)	11 (49)	- 3 (- 6)
Bridgwater	1 (23)	7 (33)	4 (37)	- 3 (+ 4)
Bristol	21 (80)	30 (87)	34 (91)	+ 4 (+ 4)
Taunton	3 (22)	11 (27)	8 (46)	- 3 (+ 19)
Weston-super-Mare	5 (18)	6 (18)	4 (25)	- 2 (+ 7)
Yeovil	2 (20)	8 (20)	3 (30)	- 5 (+ 10)
All Clinics	35 (179)	76 (240)	64 (278)	- 12 (+ 38)

The figures shown in brackets are the numbers of new cases suffering from 'other conditions' and conditions undiagnosed at 31st December, 1961.

## BLIND PERSONS

The Somerset Association for the Blind continues to carry out the general work on behalf of, and with a grant from, the County Council. This arrangement works very well in practice, and with real advantages to the blind.

Eight Home Teachers, one of whom is blind, were employed by the County Association during 1961. There were 27 home workers and 4 workshop employees under the supervision of the Bristol Royal Blind Asylum Workshops. At the end of 1961, 1,181 persons (466 male and 715 female) in the County were registered as blind — this is a decrease of 21 over 1960. In addition, there were 174 persons registered as being partially sighted.

As previously, prior to admission to the Register of Blind Persons, it is necessary for certification to be carried out by a medical practitioner, with special experience in ophthalmology. In a very few instances of the aged or bedridden in remote areas, it is possible, by a modification agreed to by the Minister of Health, for the medical attendant to supply the necessary information on form B.D.8. Little delay is now experienced generally in having persons known to be blind admitted to the Register, and the co-operation of Ophthalmic Surgeons in supplying the necessary information is appreciated.

An examination of 158 forms B.D.8. received during the year shows the following :—

### FOLLOW-UP OF REGISTERED BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS

(i) Number of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. 7(c) of forms B.D.8. recommends :—	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrorenal Fibroplasia	Others
(a) No treatment	13	16	0	62
(b) Treatment (medical, surgical or optical)	32	10	0	25
(ii) Number of cases at (i)(b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment.	14 Treated 3 Refused 3 Died 12 Too frail	9 Treated 1 Died		21 Treated 1 Refused 1 Died 2 Too frail

Once again, no cases of blindness from retrorenal fibroplasia were registered during the year.

## OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

(i) Total number of cases notified during the year     ...     ...     NIL

(ii) Number of cases in which:—

- (a) Vision lost     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...     NIL
- (b) Vision impaired     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...     NIL
- (c) Treatment continuing at end of year     ...     ...     NIL

## NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACTS

### MATERNAL AND CHILD WELFARE

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN. The growth of the County population year by year results in increasing demands on the personal Health Services. The County Services for mothers and young children (now called the Home Health Services) are no exception: the live births were 8,215, showing an increase of 120 over the previous year and the total births were 8,366, showing a slight increase over the previous year's figure of 8,240. The number of still-births (151) was also higher than the previous year. The still-birth rate rose from 17.6 to 18.0 per thousand total births. Many still-births are unavoidable, and, in the past nine years both the local and national still-birth rates have shown very little reduction, although Somerset still shows a lower rate than England and Wales.

ILLEGITIMACY. There were 372 illegitimate live births and 13 still births, compared with 345 and 4 last year. The rise in the number and in the proportion of illegitimate births is a trend which occurred nationally, but the proportion of illegitimate births in Somerset (4.5%) is well below the average for England and Wales (5.9%).

DEATHS OF CHILDREN IN THE FIRST YEAR OF LIFE (INFANT DEATHS). There were 130 infant deaths in 1961, compared with 160 last year. The infant mortality rate is, therefore, unusually low at 15.8 and compares satisfactorily with the rate of 21.4 for England and Wales. This improvement is due in the main to a decrease in the deaths during the first few weeks of life: the mortality rate in the first week of life is 8.89, compared with 13.2 last year, and the mortality rate in the first month of life is 10.8 compared with 14.8 last year. Congenital malformations, prematurity and birth injury are the three principal causes of death of these very young babies. Although the number of still-births increased slightly, this very low number of deaths during the first week of life brought down the total of peri-natal deaths to 224 and the peri-natal mortality rate fell from 30.4 in 1960 to 26.8. This compares very favourably with the national rate of 32.2.

DEATHS OF CHILDREN AGED 1 to 5. The loss of life in the remaining four years before school entry is about one-eighth of that in the first year of life. This year, however, there was an increase in the number of deaths from 20 to 36. Thirteen died from diseases of the respiratory system and eleven died from accidents. Motor vehicle acci-

dents were responsible for only three of the eleven deaths, thus emphasising that the home can be a dangerous place for young children.

MATERNAL DEATHS. Three mothers died from causes which appeared to be due to pregnancy or complications of child birth. There were no deaths due to abortion.

PREMATURE BABIES. For many years particular attention has been paid to babies with a birth weight of 5½ lbs. or less. As these small babies require special care to survive to healthy childhood, the joint efforts of the hospitals, general practitioners and domiciliary workers in caring for premature babies are reflected by the decrease in the number of deaths in the first week of life. Apart from contributing to good antenatal care, the domiciliary services have a responsibility to ensure that the mother in premature labour is transported to a maternity unit which can provide specialised services for the baby, and to assist when the mother and baby have returned home from hospital. Some of the larger and fit premature babies can be cared for at home and stocks of equipment are available on loan in such cases. The Area Nursing Officers play an important part in advising domiciliary staff and all premature children are kept under close observation until satisfactory progress is assured.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES. The 132 Child Welfare Clinics in the County are conducted by Committees of voluntary workers and professional staff, and each month the clinics are open for an average of 249 sessions. It is to these clinics that the mother brings her young child for regular weighing and advice. In recent years, less emphasis has been placed on the need for regular weight checks and more attention has been directed towards immunisation and the detection of defects. Children in their first and second years are usually regular clinic attenders, but between the ages of 2 and 5 there is a sharp drop in the number of children attending and in the frequency of their attendances. This is unfortunate since many conditions which are discoverable in routine examinations of toddlers and susceptible to early treatment, such as visual defects, are not discovered until the child enters school. A planned campaign by the Clinic Committee can do much to change the pattern of attendances. Invitations to "birthday" examinations at the clinic, and help in organising "baby minders" so that the mother's undivided attention can be given to the older children during consultations, are ways in which toddler attendances can be improved.

HANDICAPPED CHILDREN. The young child with a handicap is a particular responsibility of the Health Visiting Service. During the

early years, the essential is to secure that any handicap is noted as soon as possible and investigated promptly, so that treatment can be undertaken without delay. Parents are often unwilling to seek advice at this stage and may need much encouragement and persuasion to do so. Once treatment is started the parents and child may need considerable help from the Health Visitor in adjusting to the disability and in carrying out the instructions given. With the more severe defects educational plans are made well before the age of 5 so that the handicapped child can enter the educational system with the minimum of disability and with treatment as far as possible completed.

During the year the services of a second Travelling Teacher of the Deaf became available to pre-school children. A further development of the services for deaf and partially deaf pre-school children is being planned currently.

**DAY NURSERIES.** The Day Nurseries in Bridgwater, Keynsham and Taunton maintain satisfactory attendances. Besides those children with long-term needs for help the availability of a Day Nursery makes it possible for many children to remain at home during periods of their mother's sickness or confinement. Otherwise, these children would go into the care of the Children's Department or be fostered out in strange surroundings. The requests for day nursery places are mainly for children aged 3 and 4: children of these ages require more attention and become more difficult to look after when mother is working. "Only children" of these ages also become bored easily and are troublesome if they have not sufficient occupation and company.

**NURSERIES AND CHILD MINDERS.** At the end of the year ten premises or persons were registered, providing care for a total of 77 children, and a number of other applications were under consideration.

**UNMARRIED MOTHERS.** The County Mother and Baby Home at "Braeside" took in a total of 30 girls compared with last year's 24. In addition, 25 others were assisted to stay in Homes outside the County. The number of requests for financial assistance is bound to increase since help previously obtained from a voluntary fund has diminished. Stay in a Home, besides providing food, shelter and security when it is most needed by the expectant mother, also allows the staff of experienced caseworkers to help with the many other problems. When this help is given outside the girl's home the end results are often more satisfactory, since the unmarried mother can make decisions which are not dictated by the force of circumstance or family pressure. Many of the unhappy marri-

ages dealt with by Social Agencies stem from illegitimate pregnancies which have been wrongly handled or dealt with by forced marriage.

DISTRIBUTION OF WELFARE FOODS. As in previous years, the sale of welfare foods continued at Health Centres, Welfare Centres, several shops and some private houses. Once again I must stress that much of this work is done voluntarily and I should like to pay tribute to the help given by these people, without whom the service cannot be maintained. At the end of the year there were 186 distribution points in the County, of which 71 were at Child Welfare Centres.

On 1st June the Government increased the price of orange juice from 5d. to 1s. 6d. a bottle. At the same time, charges were introduced for cod liver oil and vitamin tablets. As a result the issue of these commodities went down considerably and the following table shows the quantities of welfare foods taken up during the year with figures for each of the preceding three years for comparison.

	National Dried Milk (tins)	Cod Liver Oil (bottles)	Expectant Mothers	
			Vitamins A & D (packets)	Orange Juice (bottles)
1958	116,600	32,752	23,527	249,432
1959	104,984	31,496	24,236	246,467
1960	94,451	30,123	25,665	239,728
1961	87,640	23,192	21,617	165,526

## HEALTH EDUCATION

The development of health awareness is promoted firstly by personal contact with individual members of the Public. It is also helped by talks given to audiences from various organisations and bodies in the County. The health visitors and "combined" nurses are the key workers in Health Education. Their activities are co-ordinated and directed by the County Health Education Nursing Committee whose members include "combined" and full-time health visitors. This committee meets regularly to discuss policy, to plan health education programmes and to select publicity media. The individual members have been a valuable link with the field workers in helping to disseminate information through local meetings. The main part of the Education Programme is undertaken at Clinics, Parentcraft Classes, Mothers' Clubs, Parent/Teacher Associations, various women's organisations and some Youth Clubs. Visual aids such as posters, leaflets, pamphlets, film strips, flannelgraphs and films are regularly used to present health facts in an interesting form. Valuable assistance has been given by members of the County Education Department in matters concerning visual aids and methods of display.

There were two developments during the year which are worthy of note. Following a meeting of the West of England Child Health Group at Messrs. Clarks Factory at Street when an Orthopaedic Surgeon and a member of the firm had talked on correct shoe fitting for children, the firm generously offered to make a film on this subject for consumer education. A Committee consisting of representatives from the Medical Officers and Health Visitors, the Central Visual and Oral Aids Panel of the County Education Department (which scrutinizes new educational material), the Surgeon and the Orthopaedic Sister joined the firm's representatives to plan the film. Work on this project still continues. The second request came from the British Medical Association in the South of the County which asked the County Health Department to organise an exhibition of Health Education at their Clinical meeting in February, 1962. A comprehensive display of all facets of Departmental Health Education work has been planned.

## MIDWIFERY AND HOME NURSING

The day-to-day supervision of the Midwifery, Home Nursing and Health Visiting Services continues to be undertaken by the Senior Medical Officer for Maternal and Child Welfare, the County Nursing Officer and Area Nursing Officers.

The general policy of combined nursing, midwifery and health visiting, with or without school work, continues, and at the end of 1961 the District Nursing and Midwifery staff consisted of 199 permanent and 45 part-time relief personnel as shown on the table below:

Qualifications	On permanent District	Part-time Relief Staff
Queen's Nurse/Midwives with H.V. Certificate	112	—
S.R.N., S.C.M., with H.V. Certificate	2	2
Queen's Nurse/Midwives	50	5
S.R.N., S.C.M.	12	9
S.E.A.N., S.C.M.	8	4
Queen's District Nurses (incl. 6 male nurses)	9	1
S.R.N.	4	15
S.C.M.	—	3
S.E.A.N.	2	6
	199	45

During the year many of the permanent staff have had to cover two areas for long periods. This has often created conditions of considerable strain especially among the older members, and without the energy and hard work of all the permanent staff the Nursing Services could not have maintained the high standards always associated with Somerset. We are indeed indebted to all the nursing personnel.

Recruitment over the year has shown a gradual but steady improvement.

The facilities afforded the student Nurses in general training for visits of observation to the domiciliary field and the liaison with Part II training schools has helped to stimulate interest in public health work and a proportion of post-graduate trainees are drawn from these sources.

An increasing number of qualified married Nurses and Midwives, whose families are of school age are now anxious to return to the practice of their profession. The placing of these people is dependent on the family domicile and not necessarily where the need is greatest and they cannot be relied on as a solution to the problem. The applications for part-time work have been in excess of the vacancies available but the employment of these Nurses continues to ease the position during holiday and post-graduate study periods of the permanent staff, as well as helping on busy areas.

The general health of nursing staff has remained good and absence for short-term illness has been less than usual. However, despite modern teaching on lifting techniques and the availability of nursing aids and hoists for easy lifting of heavy patients, the prolapsed invertebral disc is still one of the main causes of long-term absence from work.

#### MIDWIFERY

For the purpose of the Midwives Acts the medical supervisor of Midwives is the Senior Medical Officer for Maternal and Child Welfare, and the non-medical supervision of Midwives is carried out by the County Nursing Officer and Area Nursing Officers, who visit each maternity unit to inspect records and advise on procedure, as well as paying regular visits to the domiciliary midwives. The number of Midwives employed in domiciliary practice at the end of 1961 was 184. The number of deliveries attended by domiciliary midwives was 2,440 in 1961.

In present circumstances the rural midwife now has much less midwifery experience and in some cases she may need a practical as well as a statutory refresher course.

At the end of 1961 there were 124 midwives employed in hospitals in Somerset and they attended 2,710 deliveries during the year. Four midwives in private practice attended 49 deliveries. Co-operation between Hospital and domiciliary midwifery staff has continued to be good, and early notification of discharges from Hospital enables visits to be paid by the district staff without delay. District Midwives often accompany women in labour to Hospital.

There has been an increased demand for trilene and there were 8 machines in use by domiciliary midwives at the end of the year. Trilene was administered in 341 cases.

It is estimated that 120 general practitioners arrange for antenatal sessions in their own surgeries, some 57 of these — including one in a County Council Clinic — in liaison with domiciliary midwives. It is hoped the number of these latter sessions will gradually increase.

Our association has continued with the Taunton and Bridgwater Hospital Management Committees in Part II Midwifery Training Schemes and 16 pupils from the Mary Stanley Home and 12 from Musgrove Park Hospital completed their district training.

The number of parentcraft and relaxation classes has also increased during the year and there are now 23 centres in operation with midwives, health visitors, (or midwife/health visitors) and physiotherapists working as a team. Referral from the general practitioners to these classes is satisfactory.

#### HOME NURSING

A total of 321,217 visits were paid by Home Nurses during 1961, 209,066 of these being to 7,847 patients who were 65 years of age or over at the time of the first visit in 1961, and a total of 219,745 visits was paid to those 2,814 patients who had more than 24 visits each during the year. The total figure is a little less than in 1960 when there was a total of 327,362 visits paid and it is interesting to note that slightly more visits were paid to slightly less patients over 65 years of age in 1960. The same trend is noticeable in the visits paid to patients who had more than 24 visits during a year. The figures show a considerable decrease compared with 1959. These figures illustrate the demands made on the staff for the nursing of chronic and incurable cases and the heavy demands on their physical resources.

The long term loan of mechanical hoists for invalid and helpless patients has continued, and the apparatus supplied has in many instances reduced the strain on nurses and relatives and enabled many patients to be nursed in their own homes.

Four types of mobile hoists and two fixed types are available and these meet the needs of most types of patients. During 1961 there was an appreciable increase in the demands for these aids.

The work of the British Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Brigade in supplying medical comforts of all kinds through a large number of depots throughout the County is a valuable part of the Home Nursing Service.

This year a total of 5,500 articles was loaned by 95 Medical Comforts Depots and this means that well over 4,000 persons have been helped by this service. These medical comforts enable patients to be discharged to their own homes more speedily than would otherwise be possible, and without this help the cost of the hospital service would certainly be appreciably higher and the pressure on badly needed hospital

beds would be even greater. Good co-operation has been maintained with the District Nurses. Clearly this is a service of the greatest importance and I would like to pay a tribute again to the work of the members of the British Red Cross Society and St. John Ambulance Brigade who run these depots.

The Marie Curie Memorial Foundation Welfare Scheme has been used on several occasions during the year and has provided many extra comforts for incurable cases. Negotiations have also commenced with the Foundation for the provision of a Day and Night Home Nursing Service for terminal cases. This should help greatly not only in providing necessary care for the patient but also in relieving anxiety of relatives.

### HEALTH VISITING

The policy has continued of employing full time Health Visitors in Urban areas on health visiting and school work, and District Nurse/Midwife/Health Visitors on combined work in the rural areas. In areas where there is a rapidly increasing population, the case loads of the health visiting staff are frequently reviewed and in Weston-super-Mare another full time health visitor has been appointed.

Some further progress has been made during the year towards a fully qualified health visiting staff as is shown in the table below:-

Full time Health Visitors	District Nursing Staff undertaking Health Visitors duties:	
	With H.V. Certificate	Without H.V. Certificate
1948	25	29
1954	30	87
1958	31	108
1960	31	112
1961	31	115

In the case of premature babies and sick children, liaison has been established in certain hospitals between the Children's Wards and Special Care Units. At present one of the Area Nursing Officers or a Health Visitor visits the Ward and discusses cases with the Sister in Charge, where necessary contacting the District Nurse or Health Visitor directly concerned with the case. It is hoped that this type of liaison will increase.

The liaison for geriatric cases remains good and the Almoners in the main contact the Nurse or Health Visitor personally.

In considering total family care and the prevention of illness it is a matter of concern that the full-time health visitor has less contact than the combined worker with general practitioners. The combined worker is a frequent visitor to surgeries on matters concerning nursing and midwifery and can at the same time discuss the social problems of her families.

It would seem that more effective liaison between the full-time health visitor and the general practitioner could be brought about if regular meetings could be arranged. In some parts of the country health visitors have been seconded to group practices and in other areas a regular weekly visit has been arranged for discussion. Some liaison exists in this County along the latter lines.

The seconding of health visitors to group practices would in my opinion necessitate the recruiting of more than double the number of health visitors since the number of practices is relatively great in comparison with the number of health visitors employed. It is doubtful that this could be done in view of national shortage of staff. Another problem arises on considering general practitioner areas which range far and wide whilst health visitors cover geographical areas. In my opinion and as a first step in creating a closer tie, a weekly meeting between health visitor and family doctor should be encouraged wherever possible, and when this is achieved some further development might be considered later.

#### SCHOOL NURSING

The School Nurse continues to play a large part in the care, both physical and mental, of the school child, and the development of our all purpose visiting schemes ensures that the same visitor is familiar with the background of a child from birth to adolescence.

The place of the health visitor as a teacher on health matters in schools is gradually developing. The extent of the development must to a great extent depend on the attitude of head teachers to such matters and the ability of the individual health visitor to establish good relationships. In some areas school medical officers and general practitioners have participated in health education programmes in clinics and schools and their contribution has been most valuable.

Out of a total of 132,262 children examined only 339 were found to be infested and a figure of 2.6 per 1,000 reflects the present high levels of social conditions.

## TRAINING

Post-graduate training has continued during the year and the domiciliary staff have attended the necessary midwifery post-graduate and other approved courses.

A number of students from other authorities have made visits of observations to the Public Health field, including 53 nurses in general training and 35 student district nurses.

## HOUSING ACCOMMODATION

Some limited progress has been made in the erection of houses for the district nursing staff and during the year houses were completed at Evercreech and Rode. At Locking and Winford negotiations proceeded with the District Councils for the erection of nurses' houses as part of their larger housing schemes.

By the end of the year the County Council owned 43 houses and rented 54 houses either from private landlords or District Councils for the occupation of the district nursing staff.

## TRANSPORT

At the end of the year the County Council was providing a fleet of 155 cars for the use of the district nursing staff and had authorised 80 allowances to nurses using their own cars. Nearly every nurse in the County now has the use of motor transport and, of course, this is in line with present trends. The County Council make an annual plan for the replacement of the older and less economical nursing service cars but at the end of the year there were over 60 cars over seven years of age which had to be examined and receive the Ministry of Transport's certificate.

## NURSING HOMES

Under the Public Health Act of 1936 Local Health Authorities are required to register all Homes where patients are accommodated requiring nursing care.

At the end of 1961 there were 20 such Homes on the register providing a total of 283 beds. Only two of these homes accommodated maternity cases.

## HOME HELP SERVICE

During 1961 Home Helps were sent to assist in 3,875 homes, against 3,537 in 1960, an increase of 338. Of these, 2,115 remained on the books at the end of December 1961, against 1,972 in 1960 — an increase of 143. This continued expansion is inevitable in a County with a rising population and where the service is now so widely known and appreciated. It is interesting to note that in 1957 the cases per 1,000 population in the urban areas was 3.3 and in the rural areas 2.2. In 1961 these figures had increased only to 3.75 and 2.8.

In common with other Home Help Services throughout the country our heaviest commitments are in the homes of the aged and infirm. The increase in residential accommodation for the elderly and a greater provision by local authorities of groups of flats with a warden in residence has lightened the burden on the service to some extent, but in spite of this, of the 3,875 recipients of help during the year no less than 2,313 were 65 years of age and over, and 1,705 remained on the books at the end of the year. Of these, 1,298 had received help for a minimum of twelve months. The large number of elderly who need help is not entirely due to the longer expectation of life. smaller and more scattered families, or greater awareness of need. Many old people have no near relatives or have relatives already bearing the burden of the care of other infirm invalids in addition to their own children, but others may have daughters or daughters-in-law who consider that an extra wage packet takes precedence over their duty to their elderly parents. To decide whether or not we are justified in sending help to these old people at the expense of the general public or even at the expense of those more genuinely in need is not one of our organiser's more pleasant tasks.

Maternity bookings were 580, an increase of 51 over 1960. Of these 113 were cancelled for various reasons. Here it should be pointed out that where an expectant mother has any doubts as to whether she will have adequate help for her confinement she is encouraged to book a home help as a precautionary measure. If sufficient family or neighbourly help is forthcoming her booking is cancelled. Cancellations on the grounds of expense are now rare, though of the 467 who actually received help 130 only applied for full-time help, the same number as in 1960.

In 1961 Home Helps cared for 40 families during the mother's absence, an increase of 14 over 1960. These commitments may be brief as when a mother goes to hospital for a few days, or of long duration as when the mother of the family dies and the Home Help cares for the

family as a unit until they are old enough to care for themselves. If the children in these deprived families are young the Home Help may be required to be on duty early in the morning or late in the evening to fit in with the father's working hours. She may even be needed at weekends. If more women were available with no home ties who are able and willing to be on duty for hours outside the normal 9-5 this branch of the service could be developed with advantage.

The number of post-operative patients helped on their return from hospital increased from 177 to 184. Here, owing to many earlier discharges from hospital the tendency is for the services of a Home Help to be needed for longer periods. As was anticipated the need for home helps to assist patients suffering from mental illness increases slowly but surely year by year.

The number of Home Helps on the register at the end of December 1960 was 618 — this number included women of all categories from the full-time residential employee to those employed on a casual basis. At the end of December 1961 the number had increased only to 640 including some 30 who were not working but who remained on the books until such time as they were needed. The problem of the recruitment of suitable women is causing concern in many parts of the county, more especially in some coastal towns, and is made more difficult by the fact that where private domestic help is hard to obtain the calls on the service increase. A slight shortage of home helps in an area is not altogether harmful as it ensures that the help available is used to the best advantage, but an acute shortage may result in overworking a small staff of home helps and in cutting down help to the needy to below the essential minimum. In theory the obvious policy is to continue to send adequate help to the essential cases already on the books and to absorb new applicants as and when help is available. In practice an Organiser may find it impossible to reject an urgent appeal for essential help. In spite of the present shortage it is, I feel, desirable to continue to employ women of the required high standard, thus ensuring that the service retains the good name it now holds if and when the labour position improves.

A Home Help meets many people in all walks of life in the course of her work but none the less her working life may be a lonely one as she has few contacts with her fellow workers. It is for this reason, among others, that the area meetings held annually throughout the county are so well attended, and obviously so much appreciated. These meetings are primarily of an educational nature and talks are given by doctors, nurses, and others who can be of help to the home help in her work.

As an example, a talk by a geriatric specialist resulted in a party of over 40 home helps visiting the local geriatric hospital at their own request.

A call for volunteers for home helps with over five years' service to attend the International Conference of Home Helps held in London in September, mainly at their own expense, brought forth a response of over 50. Of these five were eventually chosen.

We continue to be indebted to members of the W.V.S. and other voluntary helpers for their work as liaison officers in outlying districts of the county. The local knowledge possessed by these ladies is invaluable and countless small problems are settled by them on the spot but it is an understood thing that the Area Organiser is called in to deal with any serious difficulty which may arise. Area Organisers also work very closely with the W.V.S.' Meals on Wheels Service, first in supplying a list of names of needy applicants when a new service is to be started, and then in informing the local W.V.S. office of new applications and of cancellations.

During 1961 Organisers and Assistants made 16,912 visits against 14,114 in 1960. The organising staff was increased in May by an Area Organiser for the new area at Clevedon and the trainee organiser for the Taunton area was granted a casual user's car allowance to expedite her visits in a growing area. Whenever possible all applicants for help are visited before help is sent and again during the first week. If the need is expected to fluctuate visits are made relatively frequently, but the aged and chronic sick are visited at two monthly intervals. Though many visits may appear to be brief social calls they are in fact essential if the help available is to be used to the best advantage and if the service is to run smoothly.

	Old Age	Chronic sick	Mental illness	T.B.	Post op-operative	Emergency illness	Matern-ity	Post & pre-natal	Family help	Others	Total for year	
											1961	1960
Weston-super-Mare												
Ceased	76 (132)	39 (32)	7 (6)	1 (-)	44 (39)	41 (17)	75 (66)	14 (22)	14 (5)	42 (33)	353	(351)
Continued	309 (287)	57 (47)	6 (2)	3 (2)	14 (9)	5 (3)	4 (6)	1 (-)	2 (2)	14 (6)	415	(364)
Clevedon												
Ceased	61 (42)	8 (11)	3 (1)	- (3)	13 (14)	4 (6)	42 (35)	11 (7)	- (4)	9 (12)	151	(135)
Continued	111 (110)	9 (14)	2 (-)	2 (-)	9 (5)	1 (-)	3 (2)	4 (-)	1 (-)	2 (5)	144	(136)
Midsomer Norton and Wells												
Ceased	177 (97)	35 (16)	2 (5)	- (3)	13 (15)	18 (10)	89 (88)	19 (25)	4 (4)	7 (21)	364	(284)
Continued	462 (471)	68 (76)	6 (1)	6 (1)	4 (9)	- (-)	4 (3)	6 (9)	- (1)	1 (-)	557	(571)
Bridgwater												
Ceased	83 (85)	32 (27)	1 (4)	1 (3)	16 (25)	33 (28)	83 (64)	9 (12)	10 (1)	- (1)	268	(250)
Continued	290 (255)	65 (48)	4 (5)	4 (2)	3 (5)	2 (2)	1 (3)	8 (3)	1 (1)	7 (1)	385	(325)
Yeovil												
Ceased	101 (68)	23 (12)	5 (3)	2 (1)	33 (27)	27 (25)	81 (56)	32 (23)	1 (6)	1 (1)	306	(219)
Continued	300 (275)	7 (20)	2 (4)	2 (4)	6 (8)	2 (3)	1 (-)	2 (3)	2 (1)	- (-)	323	(318)
Taunton												
Ceased	110 (117)	23 (23)	6 (3)	- (1)	25 (17)	17 (28)	84 (88)	32 (25)	3 (4)	18 (20)	318	(326)
Continued	233 (207)	44 (37)	3 (2)	- (1)	4 (4)	- (1)	1 (-)	4 (1)	2 (-)	- (-)	291	(258)
TOTAL												
Ceased	608 (541)	160 (121)	24 (22)	4 (11)	144 (137)	140 (114)	454 (410)	117 (114)	32 (21)	77 (87)	1,760	(1,565)
Continued	1705 (1605)	250 (242)	23 (14)	17 (10)	40 (40)	10 (9)	13 (10)	25 (20)	8 (5)	24 (12)	2,115	(1,972)
Helped	2313 (2146)	410 (363)	47 (36)	21 (21)	184 (177)	150 (123)	467 (420)	142 (134)	40 (26)	101 (99)	3,875	(3,537)

Maternity 17; Clevedon 9; Midsomer Norton 22 (17); Bridgwater 28 (22); Yeovil 21 (16); Taunton 16 (21); Total 113 (102)

Cancellations (with Weston 26)

New cases visited Weston 459; Clevedon 129; Midsomer Norton 403(407); Bridgwater 342(327); Yeovil 342(307); Taunton 375(333) : Total 2050(1914) during the year (with Weston 540)

Abortive visits Weston 27; Clevedon 9 (with Weston 32); Midsomer Norton 39(36); Bridgwater 20(26); Yeovil 27(18); Taunton 31(29); Total 153 (134)

	Resident	Full-time	Part-time	Few Hours
Maternity Cases				
Weston	- (5)	16 (34)	52 (40)	7 (22)
Clevedon	3	4	23	12
Midsomer Norton	1 (4)	21 (21)	48 (37)	19 (26)
Bridgwater	12 (4)	13 (13)	40 (47)	18 (3)
Yeovil	4 (3)	22 (10)	30 (25)	25 (30)
Taunton	13 (17)	21 (19)	23 (34)	27 (18)
Total	33 (33)	97 (97)	216 (183)	108 (99)

Weston 263; Clevedon 90; Midsomer Norton 399; Bridgwater 253; Yeovil 286; Taunton 153; Total 1,444

Weston 59; Clevedon 25; Midsomer Norton 48; Bridgwater 64; Yeovil 28; Taunton 65; Total 289

## VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The table shows that 8,123 children under 15 years of age received a primary course of injections in 1961 and a further 5,480 received reinforcing injections.

### SMALLPOX VACCINATION

4,530 primary vaccinations and 182 re-vaccinations were carried out during the year. The primary vaccinations included 4,217 children under five years of age.

### WHOOPING COUGH VACCINATION

During the year 7,495 children completed a primary course of vaccination either with plain whooping cough vaccine or with whooping cough vaccine in combination with other prophylactics.

### POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

Persons aged 6 months to 40 years are eligible for poliomyelitis vaccination, together with certain priority groups, which include expectant mothers, doctors, dentists, nurses and ambulance staffs. 22,453 primary courses of vaccination (two injections) were given during 1961 and 21,333 persons received a reinforcing (third) injection.

In April a circular letter was received from the Ministry of Health indicating that a reinforcing fourth dose of poliomyelitis vaccine should be offered to children when they entered school at the age of five and also to children of five and over already at school who had not reached the age of twelve. This was because there was a markedly greater risk of infection to which children at school were exposed. However, in November a further letter from the Ministry of Health advised the temporary suspension of the giving of fourth injections in view of a shortage of "Salk" vaccine. In spite of this suspension, some 39,351 children received a fourth dose of poliomyelitis vaccine during the year.

### YELLOW FEVER VACCINATION

207 persons were vaccinated against Yellow Fever at the Taunton Yellow Fever Vaccination Centre.

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION, 1961

District	Primary Immunisation							Rein-forcing Injections All Ages	Total Live Births 1960		
	Children born in the years:—										
	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	52-56	47-51				
<b>RURAL</b>											
Axbridge ...	83	236	47	13	6	58	2	272	477		
Bathavon ...	96	147	29	12	12	31	22	242	300		
Bridgwater...	46	166	33	16	6	40	1	268	381		
Chard ...	52	84	8	10	6	23	4	136	150		
Clutton ...	46	156	25	11	3	17	5	210	290		
Dulverton ...	11	40	10	4	2	3	—	29	64		
Frome ...	40	75	26	6	4	13	6	153	144		
Langport ...	52	104	23	5	3	9	20	158	211		
Long Ashton	104	284	48	16	7	35	3	325	476		
Shepton Mallet	28	78	15	6	3	15	1	118	155		
Taunton ...	89	127	32	7	8	27	9	272	325		
Wellington ...	34	80	16	6	3	5	1	73	141		
Wells ...	33	89	16	9	4	13	4	82	196		
Williton ...	25	104	12	3	5	4	5	75	214		
Wincanton ...	76	140	14	4	2	13	3	231	224		
Yéovil ...	142	194	16	17	6	42	7	241	440		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>957</b>	<b>2,104</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>2,885</b>	<b>4,188</b>		
<b>URBAN</b>											
Bridgwater...	261	119	31	18	18	65	3	248	429		
Burnham ...	14	92	15	12	3	8	12	56	148		
Chard ...	32	42	9	7	4	1	1	70	88		
Clevedon ...	39	55	9	3	2	9	1	105	142		
Crewkerne ...	29	26	3	2	—	—	—	104	60		
Frome ...	44	87	17	11	3	13	—	149	200		
Glastonbury	22	39	5	2	2	7	2	7	87		
Ilminster ...	10	22	12	1	2	2	1	36	42		
Keynsham ...	43	151	21	13	7	3	1	244	305		
Minehead ...	25	41	7	4	1	3	1	52	96		
Norton											
Radstock...	31	89	27	3	2	19	2	167	195		
Portishead...	26	86	21	8	9	16	1	105	144		
Shepton Mallet	2	48	24	4	2	19	7	94	105		
Street ...	46	61	7	6	1	5	1	43	118		
Taunton ...	127	294	70	23	16	42	7	310	510		
Watchet ...	13	14	—	—	—	—	1	12	40		
Wellington ...	15	60	18	7	2	11	1	88	124		
Wells ...	24	66	4	2	3	6	2	73	111		
Weston-super-Mare ...	119	322	42	19	8	50	8	358	610		
Yeovil ...	159	219	28	17	14	43	7	274	353		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,081</b>	<b>1,933</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>2,595</b>	<b>3,907</b>		
<b>County Totals</b>	<b>2,038</b>	<b>4,037</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>670</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>5,480</b>	<b>8,095</b>		

## SMALLPOX VACCINATION

Number of persons vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) in the year ended 31st December, 1961.

Age groups:-	Under 1		1		2 to 4		5 to 14		15 or over		Totals	
	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R
<b>RURAL</b>												
Axbridge	132	1	21	—	8	—	17	3	1	2	179	6
Bathavon	111	—	9	—	11	2	16	4	5	4	152	10
Bridgwater	156	—	13	—	5	—	12	2	5	3	191	5
Chard	71	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	78	1
Clutton	48	—	6	—	10	—	10	2	1	2	75	4
Dulverton	30	—	4	—	4	—	1	—	—	—	39	—
Frome	66	—	7	—	8	—	5	3	2	—	88	3
Langport	107	—	2	—	5	4	5	1	1	5	120	10
Long Ashton	183	—	35	—	12	—	7	3	3	2	240	5
Shepton Mallet	68	—	6	—	1	1	9	2	—	1	84	4
Taunton	158	1	5	1	13	3	12	5	3	1	191	11
Wellington	56	—	5	—	6	—	3	1	—	—	70	1
Wells	57	—	7	—	5	1	—	—	—	—	69	1
Williton	90	—	11	—	15	—	15	6	2	3	133	9
Wincanton	138	3	6	—	6	2	4	7	3	16	157	28
Yeovil	277	—	23	—	17	7	12	5	2	—	331	12
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,748</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>2,197</b>	<b>110</b>
<b>URBAN</b>												
Bridgwater	147	—	7	—	13	—	10	8	4	3	181	11
Burnham	75	—	5	—	7	2	8	3	2	1	97	6
Chard	63	—	8	—	2	—	3	1	1	—	77	1
Clevedon	98	—	4	—	3	—	7	1	4	4	116	5
Crewkerne	48	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	3	4	54	4
Frome	58	—	9	—	4	—	1	—	—	1	72	1
Glastonbury	58	2	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	61	2
Ilminster	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Keynsham	121	—	6	—	7	—	2	—	—	—	136	—
Minehead	67	1	3	—	2	—	1	5	2	3	75	9
Norton Radstock	41	—	7	—	5	—	13	—	—	1	66	1
Portishead	72	—	8	—	6	1	3	3	—	3	89	7
Shepton Mallet	68	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	72	—
Street	63	2	6	—	3	—	4	—	1	2	77	4
Taunton	315	—	14	—	21	1	27	2	6	3	383	6
Watchet	28	—	5	—	3	1	1	3	—	—	37	4
Wellington	51	—	6	—	1	—	8	—	4	1	70	1
Wells	61	—	3	—	5	—	7	—	—	—	76	—
Weston-super-Mare	174	1	16	—	18	—	19	2	3	2	230	5
Yeovil	302	—	33	—	21	1	6	1	—	3	362	5
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,912</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>2,333</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>County Totals</b>	<b>3,660</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>4,530</b>	<b>182</b>

P — Primary Vaccination

R — Re-vaccination

## WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

Number of children who completed a primary course (normally 3 injections) of pertussis vaccine (singly or in combination) in the year ended 31st December, 1961.

District	Children born in the years:-							Total	
	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	52-56	47-51		
<b>RURAL</b>									
Axbridge	...	84	236	48	13	7	17	1	406
Bathavon	...	94	147	27	11	8	13	2	302
Bridgwater	...	46	164	33	12	6	16	—	277
Chard	...	51	84	8	10	5	18	3	179
Clutton	...	45	158	25	11	3	10	5	257
Dulverton	...	11	40	9	3	1	2	—	66
Frome	...	40	73	24	6	3	9	5	160
Langport	...	52	104	23	5	3	9	20	216
Long Ashton	...	103	282	47	16	6	12	1	467
Shepton Mallet	...	28	72	14	6	1	3	—	124
Taunton	...	89	125	32	7	7	8	3	271
Wellington	...	34	80	16	5	3	5	—	143
Wells	...	33	88	16	9	3	8	4	161
Williton	...	25	98	11	3	4	3	2	146
Wincanton	...	72	128	13	4	3	5	2	227
Yeovil	...	141	179	15	16	6	15	7	379
<b>Totals</b>		948	2,058	361	137	69	153	55	3,781
<b>URBAN</b>									
Bridgwater	...	261	119	31	18	18	8	3	458
Burnham	...	14	90	13	12	2	2	2	135
Chard	...	33	44	10	7	4	1	—	99
Clevedon	...	40	54	9	3	2	3	—	111
Crewkerne	...	31	26	3	2	—	—	—	62
Frome	...	45	97	13	11	2	4	—	172
Glastonbury	...	22	38	5	1	2	5	1	74
Ilminster	...	10	22	12	1	2	2	1	50
Keynsham	...	42	148	21	9	4	2	1	227
Minehead	...	25	41	6	4	1	2	—	79
Norton Radstock	...	31	88	26	3	2	3	—	153
Portishead	...	26	85	21	8	8	7	—	155
Shepton Mallet	...	2	48	26	4	1	11	7	99
Street	...	46	61	7	6	1	2	—	123
Taunton	...	127	287	68	22	14	22	4	544
Watchet	...	13	14	—	—	—	—	1	28
Wellington	...	15	59	18	7	2	5	1	107
Wells	...	24	66	4	2	3	1	1	101
Weston-super-Mare	...	119	315	37	15	5	12	—	503
Yeovil	...	146	215	27	16	13	12	5	434
<b>Totals</b>		1,072	1,917	357	151	86	104	27	3,714
<b>County Totals</b>		2,020	3,975	718	288	155	257	82	7,495

## POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

Number of persons who received a course of primary vaccination (two injections),  
 number of persons who received a third (reinforcing) injection during the year 1961  
 and number of children who received a fourth (reinforcing) injection.

District	Primary Courses				Number of persons (all groups) who received a third reinforcing injection	Number of children of 5 yrs. but under 12 yrs. who received a fourth reinforcing injection
	Children born 1943 - 61	Young persons born 1933 - 42	Persons under 40 yrs. of age	Persons over 40 yrs. in Priority Groups		
<b>RURAL</b>						
Axbridge	594	133	418	15	1,139	2,017
Bathavon	319	84	263	5	752	1,469
Bridgwater	397	87	349	19	861	1,608
Chard	196	42	154	14	392	911
Clutton	345	76	257	2	736	1,321
Dulverton	83	29	55	1	223	201
Frome	222	81	147	3	308	784
Langport	240	40	229	6	466	998
Long Ashton	682	166	538	7	1,335	2,202
Shepton Mallet	191	45	142	3	405	817
Taunton	363	106	321	2	760	1,394
Wellington	210	58	189	1	381	557
Wells	266	52	159	2	410	776
Williton	254	63	251	4	544	673
Wincanton	325	90	357	10	847	1,414
Yeovil	461	117	382	22	1,126	1,931
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5,148</b>	<b>1,269</b>	<b>4,211</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>10,685</b>	<b>19,073</b>
<b>URBAN</b>						
Bridgwater	586	123	313	16	1,011	2,275
Burnham	173	68	233	2	526	1,018
Chard	146	25	128	17	304	477
Clevedon	208	54	179	2	447	894
Crewkerne	75	13	32	10	118	366
Frome	388	135	287	5	494	1,021
Glastonbury	127	37	150	1	277	465
Ilminster	48	3	74	8	84	210
Keynsham	334	72	342	—	701	1,417
Minehead	136	56	154	8	265	450
Norton Radstock	318	77	278	4	523	1,202
Portishead	217	51	142	2	461	641
Shepton Mallet	119	25	94	1	272	443
Street	181	45	155	1	484	682
Taunton	716	238	781	24	1,448	2,571
Watchet	60	17	60	—	136	176
Wellington	110	31	168	6	259	546
Wells	295	57	150	3	332	675
Weston-super-Mare	695	218	529	14	1,288	2,633
Yeovil	464	132	432	31	1,218	2,116
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5,396</b>	<b>1,477</b>	<b>4,681</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>10,648</b>	<b>20,278</b>
<b>County Totals</b>	<b>10,544</b>	<b>2,746</b>	<b>8,892</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>21,333</b>	<b>39,351</b>

## AMBULANCE SERVICE

### GENERAL

Last year I reported that the number of patients carried during 1960 rose by 8,246. In 1961 there was a further rise of 6,316, i.e., approximately 3½%. In the same period the total mileage run by the Service increased by 45,822. The details are given in the table below.

Since its inauguration with the National Health Service in 1948 the Ambulance Service has met a continually increasing demand, and present indications suggest that this trend is likely to continue, at least for a few years. At the same time, the number of motor vehicles on the roads is increasing and despite road improvements which have and are taking place, delays due to traffic congestion are greater. It is inevitable, therefore, that it will be necessary for the Service to continue to expand to meet the changing situation.

	Patients	Mileage	Average Distance travelled per patient.
<b>1960</b>			
Ambulances ...	55,754	482,337	8.65
Sitting case Vehicles	89,577	696,021	7.77
Cars ... ...	26,281	165,642	6.30
<b>Totals – Service Vehicles</b>	<b>171,612</b>	<b>1,344,000</b>	<b>7.83</b>
Hospital Car Service	7,286	37,000	5.08
Private Hire ...	886	5,283	5.96
<b>All Vehicles ...</b>	<b>179,784</b>	<b>1,386,283</b>	<b>7.71</b>
<b>1961</b>			
Ambulances ...	59,259	516,244	8.71
Sitting case vehicles	96,293	745,654	7.74
Cars ... ...	23,115	138,089	5.97
<b>Totals – Service Vehicles</b>	<b>178,667</b>	<b>1,399,987</b>	<b>7.84</b>
Hospital Car Service	7,159	30,293	4.23
Private Hire ...	274	1,825	6.66
<b>All Vehicles ...</b>	<b>186,100</b>	<b>1,432,105</b>	<b>7.70</b>

I am pleased to report that the volunteers who assist in the night and weekend manning of the Ilminster and Castle Cary Stations have continued. The agency arrangements with the St. John Ambulance Brigade continue and although the present-day demands of the Service are too great at most Stations for volunteers during the day-time, volunteers assist in several areas at night and at weekends. The Highbridge Station continues its aim to provide a 24-hour service entirely with volunteers.

#### CONTROL

The Ambulance Controls at Taunton, Weston-super-Mare and Glastonbury continue to be manned on a 24-hour basis, and at Yeovil from 7.30 a.m. to 10.0 p.m. daily.

At Weston-super-Mare the Control has been manned at night by a driver/attendant. The increasing demands, coupled with changes taking place in the Service, made it necessary for a more responsible officer to be at the Control, and, in consequence, the staff of the Weston-super-Mare Station has been strengthened by the addition of two senior drivers. This brings Weston-super-Mare in line with the other Controls.

At Yeovil the night Control continues to be from the homes of the senior staff.

The rising demand on the Service brings with it an increase in the use of the telephones at the Ambulance Controls, and there are already signs that additional telephones may have to be installed to avoid delays and complaints. This is particularly so at Taunton, Weston-super-Mare and Glastonbury.

The rise in the work in the Glastonbury area partly, perhaps, because of the rapid growth of the Keynsham area, is proving too much for the day control staff, and during 1962 it will be necessary to appoint an Assistant Group Officer.

Radio continues to be an essential feature of Control. In connection with the changeover of equipments to meet the revised specification of the G.P.O. as intimated in my last report, it is planned to divide the County into two (North and South) each operating on a separate frequency, to eliminate the overloading which is now taking place, and, therefore, to make radio more effective. At the same time, it is hoped to make some other improvements. During the year six more vehicles were equipped with radio, and the following table shows the disposition of vehicles between the Groups as at 31st March. The figures in brackets show the total number of vehicles and the various categories within each area.

Control Area	Ambulances	Dual-purpose Sitting-case Ambulances	Cars	TOTAL
Group 1 Taunton	12 (12)	10 (10)	1 (2)	23 (24)
Group 2 Weston-s-Mare	11 (14)	9 (9)	2 (2)	22 (25)
Group 3 Glastonbury	8 (10)	9 (9)	3 (3)	20 (22)
Group 4 Yeovil	4 (4)	6 (6)	— —	10 (10)
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>35 (40)</b>	<b>34 (34)</b>	<b>6 (7)</b>	<b>75 (81)</b>

### STAFF

To maintain the efficiency of the Service and to meet the rising demands and to avoid delays, some additions have had to be made to the staff at Ambulance Stations. The needs of the rapidly growing Keynsham area will be met, it is hoped by the establishment of an Ambulance Station there early in 1962. The following additions have been made during the year:—

Yeovil	1
Bridgwater	1
Frome	1
Weston-super-Mare	2

Because of the delay in the building of the new Churchill Station one man appointed for that Station has worked at Weston-super-Mare during the year.

The authorised establishment at 31st December, 1961, was as follows:—

Ambulance Station	Station Officers	Senior Drivers	Driver Attendants	TOTALS
<b>SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL</b>				
Castle Cary	—	1	3	4
Churchill	—	1	2	3
Ilminster	—	1	2	3
Keynsham	—	1	3	4
Paulton	—	—	1	1
Shepton Mallet	1	2	5	8
Taunton	1	4	16	21
Yeovil	1	2	8	11
<b>ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE</b>				
Bridgwater	—	1	6	7
Clevedon	—	2	6	8
Glastonbury	1	2	6	9
Frome	—	1	2	3
Minehead	1	—	6	7
Portishead	—	1	2	3
Norton-Radstock	—	1	7	8
Wells	—	—	1	1
Wellington	—	—	1	1
Weston-super-Mare	1	4	16	21
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>123</b>

## VEHICLES

During the year 8 new vehicles were provided as follows:-

1 ambulance on the Bedford 15-cwt chassis at Highbridge.

2 large Bedford ambulances at Taunton and Churchill.

2 sitting-case ambulances on the Ford/Thames 15-cwt chassis at Yeovil and Castle Cary.

1 sitting-case ambulance on the Commer 15-cwt chassis at Minehead.

1 small sitting-case ambulance on the Bedford 15-cwt chassis at Weston-super-Mare.

1 large sitting-case ambulance on the Austin 30-cwt chassis at Weston-super-Mare.

A sitting-case ambulance has been added to the Frome Station, and the total establishment at 31st December was 81 distributed as shown in the following table:-

Ambulance Stations	Ambulances	Small Dual Purpose Sitting Case Ambulances	Cars	TOTALS
<b>SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL</b>				
Castle Cary	1	2	—	3
Churchill	1	1	—	2
Ilminster	2	1	—	3
Paulton	—	1	—	1
Shepton Mallet	1	3	1	5
Taunton	6	4	2	12
Yeovil	3	4	—	7
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE</b>				
Bridgwater	2	2	—	4
Cheddar	1	—	—	1
Clevedon	3	2	—	5
Frome	1	1	—	2
Glastonbury	2	3	1	6
Highbridge	2	—	—	2
Minehead	2	2	—	4
Norton-Radstock	3	1	1	5
Portishead	1	1	—	2
Wedmore	1	—	—	1
Wellington	—	1	—	1
Wells	1	—	—	1
Weston-super-Mare	5	5	2	12
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Reserve</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>GRAND TOTALS</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>81</b>

#### HOSPITAL CAR AND HIRE SERVICES

The Hospital Car Service continues to perform a very useful function in parts of the County. Hire Services are not now being used to the same extent as in the past.

#### RAIL TRAVEL

The number of patients carried by rail has continued to increase despite the difficulties on certain routes due to the changeover of rolling

stock and the curtailment of services. At present the only way in which these changes on the railways has affected the Ambulance Service in Somerset is that in order to take advantage of the facilities available a slightly longer road journey is sometimes necessary at either or both ends of the travel. As will be observed from the table which follows, the total equivalent road mileage continues to rise. There is no doubt that rail journeys for patients who have to be moved long distances is one of the most comfortable means of travel, and because of this, and the large saving in expenditure resulting therefrom, it should continue to be used for both stretcher and sitting-patients as long as the facilities are there. We are indebted to the many volunteers who so willingly act as escorts on these journeys.

	Stretcher		Sitting		Total	
	Patients	Mileage	Patients	Mileage	Patients	Mileage
1960	163	19,663	622	48,953	785	68,616
1961	212	23,061	706	55,502	918	78,563

Total equivalent road mileages:-

1959 — approximately 131,000  
 1960 — approximately 137,000  
 1961 — approximately 157,000

#### PREMISES

During the year no changes have been made in the premises occupied. Delays, unfortunately, have occurred in completing the plans for the new Ambulance Station and Group Control at Weston-super-Mare, and the building of the Station and Group Control at Yeovil has not progressed as rapidly as had been anticipated. It is hoped that the Yeovil Station will be completed during 1962 and also the small station at Churchill, and that the building at Weston-super-Mare will be well under way. It is hoped that a start will be made in 1962 on the new Station at Bridgwater.

During the year consideration was given to the provision of additional garage accommodation at the St. John Ambulance Brigade premises at Midsomer Norton. The Brigade are providing this and it should be ready for use early next year.

**PREVENTION, CARE AND AFTER-CARE  
TUBERCULOSIS**

Dr. C. de W. Kitcat, Senior Consultant Chest Physician, has provided information for the following report:-

**NOTIFICATIONS:**

These at 147 show a further slight reduction.

**PARTICULARS OF PULMONARY CASES NOTIFIED:**

Year	New Cases Notified	Transfers from other Authorities	Total	Contacts seen
1956	200	65	265	1,279
1957	192	92	284	1,537
1958	216	79	295	1,583
1959	185	72	257	1,876
1960	158	61	219	1,430
1961	147	59	206	1,348

**TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATIONS, 1961, BY AGE GROUPS.**

Age Groups	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F
0 – 1	1	0	0	0
2 – 5	3	3	0	0
5 – 10	2	0	0	0
10 – 15	6	2	1	1
15 – 20	4	4	0	2
20 – 25	4	6	3	1
25 – 35	10	13	1	5
35 – 45	19	10	1	3
45 – 55	16	7	5	1
55 – 65	18	4	2	2
65 & Over	11	4	0	1
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>16</b>

### POST MORTEM NOTIFICATIONS:

There were 7 cases of tuberculosis during 1961 which were not formally notified before death. These cases were in two categories, as follows :—

(1) Diagnosed after Post Mortem examination :

1 male (pulmonary) aged 73  
1 female (pulmonary) aged 68

(2) Diagnosed on a doctor's certificate :

<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>
2 males (ages 44, 65)	1 female (aged 62 years)
2 females (ages 78, 82)	

### CHEST HOSPITALS:

QUANTOCK CHEST HOSPITAL. Resulting from the lack of demand for beds for women and the shortage of nurses, the upper floor originally used for female patients was closed and the ground floor divided to provide beds for 20 male and 8 female patients.

The average occupancy for the year was 14 as compared with 22 in 1960.

Admissions for the year:	Men 28	Women 24	Total 52
Discharges for the year:	Men 30	Women 25	Total 55
Deaths during the year:	Men 2	Women 1	Total 3

TAUNTON CHEST HOSPITAL. The bed complement remains the same at 26 (14 male and 12 female). The average occupancy for the year was 13. On the 31st December, 1961 7 male and 11 female beds were unoccupied.

Admissions for the year:	Men 26	Women 19	Total 45
Discharges for the year:	Men 25	Women 22	Total 47
Deaths during the year:	Men 2	Women 0	Total 2

FUTURE REQUIREMENTS. The demand for beds for tuberculous cases has again fallen and further decreases in 1962 seem probable. A total of 25 beds would appear to be sufficient for the future needs of the South Somerset Clinical Area.

### OTHER HOSPITALS:

The number of T.B. patients admitted to other hospitals during the year was 70.

### CHEST CLINICS:

The new cases seen at the chest clinics numbered 5,616 and were classified as follows:-

#### Pulmonary Tuberculosis

T.B. Negative ...	...	...	51	
T.B. Positive, stage 1		...	33	
T.B. Positive, stage 2		...	60	
T.B. Positive, stage 3		...	<u>15</u>	159

#### Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis

Bones and Joints	...	...	2	
Abdominal	...	...	1	
Other organs	...	...	12	
Peripheral glands	...	...	<u>6</u>	21
Not Tuberculous	...	...		5,436
				<u>5,616</u>

Chest Clinic attendances have been as follows:-

Clinic	1959	1960	1961
Bath (County)	969	847	923
Bridgwater	4,980	4,086	4,048
Bristol	425	—	—
Chard	933	860	691
Clevedon	568	447	461
Frome	280	385	228
Minehead	1,303	1,649	1,711
Paulton	—	—	244
Radstock	794	738	459
Shepton Mallet	512	377	305
Taunton	8,614	7,330	6,555
Wells	—	303	342
Weston-super-Mare	4,529	3,945	3,689
Yeovil	2,677	2,537	2,793
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>26,584</b>	<b>23,504</b>	<b>22,449</b>

Although total attendances have decreased, new case attendances show an increase of 455 (8.8%) on the 1960 total. This is entirely due to the demand for the investigation and treatment of non-tuberculous chest cases, there being a reduction in the number of T.B. cases and contacts attending the chest clinics.

At Taunton the chest clinic has for many years provided a chest x-ray service for the General Practitioners, the organisation and reporting for this being carried out by the chest clinic staff. In consequence these cases, numbering well over 1,000 a year, have been included in the chest clinic attendance figures. In October, 1961, the X-ray Department at Musgrove Park Hospital was opened direct to the General Practitioners and the chest clinic ceased to be responsible. This accounts for the slight fall in the Taunton Chest Clinic attendances but the decrease will be more apparent in 1962.

#### MASS RADIOGRAPHY:

Year	Numbers examined		Active cases found	Active case per thousand examined		
	Male	Female		Male	Female	Total
1958	20,779	14,396	30	0.82	0.90	0.85
1959	14,682	9,528	24	0.82	1.20	0.99
1960	20,196	14,354	25	0.74	0.69	0.72
1961	10,833	8,870	6	0.27	0.33	0.30

In addition to the above, there were 56 cases (30 male and 26 female) with inactive tuberculosis.

Fewer x-rays were taken in 1961 and there was a considerable fall in the number of cases of tuberculosis discovered. In general throughout the country the Mass X-ray Service is finding far fewer cases and attempts are now being made, with more mobile apparatus, to visit outlying districts in an effort to reach people who may have been prevented by transport difficulties from coming to the larger towns for x-ray.

#### TUBERCULOSIS DEATH RATES:

The death rate for the year was 0.071 compared with 0.073 in 1960.

## CHIROPODY SERVICE – 1961

The Chiropody Service, which started in April 1960, is now well established, and has continued to work steadily throughout the year, without any major changes or expansion. The latter is due to the fact that the conditions of service originally laid down by the appropriate Whitley Council have not been changed, and many Chiropodists have been unwilling to come into the Scheme, as they felt the fees payable were inadequate. However, the Service we are providing is proving to be very beneficial to a great many elderly people, and during the year 923 had treatment arranged for them by private Chiropodists. At present treatment is being given by 17 private Chiropodists, who see patients in their surgeries, or if needed visit them at home. During the year 9,013 Surgery treatments, and 1,762 Domiciliary treatments were given. The distribution of the availability of treatment in the County varies considerably, and many of the Chiropodists working for us are in the coastal towns of Minehead, Weston-super-Mare and Clevedon, and this is perhaps understandable as a large proportion of the residents are retired persons. Whereas in other parts of the County, it is not always possible to arrange treatment except through that provided by the Old Peoples' Clubs. The service provided by these Clubs is proving to be very popular, and all Clubs show an increase in the number of members requesting treatment. At present 32 Clubs are receiving grants from the County Council ranging from £10 – £200 per year towards the cost of their Chiropody Service, and we owe a great debt of gratitude to all the Club Organizers for their help and co-operation so willingly given. Many old people are now able to get treatment, which was previously barred to them as they could not afford the full fee of a private Chiropodist, and their gratitude is, I think, summed up in an extract from a letter received from one of the Club Organizers who says, "Many of these old folk suffered in silence for many years, but now they are so relieved, and their faces light up with joy. Many thanks for this grand service". Apart from the Clubs, Chiropody treatment is also carried out in 15 Old Peoples' Homes, by Chiropodists who visit the Homes, and work on a sessional basis.

To sum up, I would say that this Service, though still in its infancy, shows every prospect of expanding, and it is hoped that by early in 1962, negotiations with the Whitley Council will come to a satisfactory conclusion, which will be more favourable to the Chiropodists, when I am sure many more will be willing to come into our Scheme, and thus enable more elderly people to benefit from this Service.

## MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

### ADMINISTRATION

In accordance with the Fourth Schedule of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the powers and duties of the Local Health Authority which relates to Mental Health have been referred to the Mental Health Sub-Committee. The services which the Local Health Authority provide under this heading are designed to meet the need of all those who suffer from some form of mental disorder; to provide for the promotion of good health and the prevention of ill health; for the recognition and treatment of mental disorder and for the rehabilitation, aftercare, training and welfare of the patient where necessary. These matters were dealt with in the County Council's proposals under Section 20 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, to which I referred in detail in my Annual Report for 1960.

#### (1) TRAINING CENTRES

The County's first new purpose built Junior Training Centre and Residential Hostel at Yeovil was completed towards the end of 1961. The Centre accommodates 50 children, 22 of whom will stay as weekly boarders in the hostel during term-time. Although completed during the year under review, this unit will not be in use it is anticipated, until about mid-term of the Spring Term, 1962.

In the meantime a resident Housemother and Warden have been appointed for duty at the hostel, but difficulty in appointing other suitable staff for the hostel has to a large measure delayed the date of operation of the combined unit.

The present Junior Centre is in the course of conversion for use as an Adult Training Centre for male and female patients over the age of 16 years.

By arrangements with the Management Committee of St. Margarets, Weston-super-Mare (a short-stay care and holiday home for mentally handicapped children), five places have been reserved as hostel accommodation for children attending the Weston-super-Mare Training Centre. The St. Margaret's Committee have been requested to consider whether in future they might be able to offer up to 10 resident places should the need arise.

The following table shows the number of pupils and outworkers of all ages at Training Centres at the end of the December Quarter, 1961:—

Centre	Places	Registered Pupils	Outworkers	Total	Waiting List
Bridgwater	32	38	—	38	2
Glastonbury	50	42	—	42	1
Lopen	20	23	—	23	1
Radstock	50	55	7	62	3
Taunton	32	51	—	51	3
Weston-super-Mare	50	55	1	56	2
Yeovil	32	41	—	41	2
Bath	—	8	—	8	—
Bristol	—	—	—	—	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>15</b>

The County Council have approved in principle proposals to build new Junior Training Centres at Bridgwater and Taunton and the conversion of the present Centres in these towns for use as Adult Training Centres. The necessary sites at Bridgwater and Taunton have been acquired.

Similarly, extensions at Radstock and Weston-super-Mare have been approved in principle, and subject to siting and if necessary the acquisition of additional land, facilities for Adult training and modifications to the existing Junior Centres are proposed.

It is hoped that work on all four projects will be in the next financial year if at all possible.

## (2) HOME TRAINING

Apart from the "Outworker" Scheme referred to in the preceding paragraph, a home training scheme has not yet been introduced.

Thirty-one patients (age range 5 to 15 years) were awaiting admission to residential training centres on the 31st December, 1961.

## (3) RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION

### Cliffe View, Cheddar.

In my last Annual Report I referred to the proposed establishment of Cliffe View, Cheddar, as a hostel for female patients over the age of 16 years in need of temporary residential care. This hostel, carrying a

complement of Matron, Assistant Matron, part-time Cook and Gardener-Handyman, provides resident accommodation for 12 female mentally disordered patients, mostly within the subnormal group. Ten residents were admitted and were found employment locally. A Mental Welfare Officer with special duties relating to the hostel acts as a liaison social worker. An effort is being made to prevent long-stay at Cliffe View and with this in mind a boarding-out scheme is planned to ensure a regular flow of patients from hostel to family care.

Initial staffing difficulties delayed the opening until June, but by the end of the year, the appointment of a trained and experienced Matron lent hope that this new branch of community care, would prove its value in the years ahead.

During the year eight patients were resident at local authority expense by boarding out in private households.

#### (4) DAY CENTRES

The establishment of Ivor House Social Health Centre at Taunton by the Regional Hospital Board is reported. This unit which fulfils the function of a local Day Hospital and a Social Therapy Centre is administered by the Tone Vale Hospital Management Committee.

The Council's Mental Welfare Officers are closely concerned and assist in the social case work arrangements as required.

A Day Hospital is proposed in Yeovil and similarly the Regional Hospital Board have been asked to build a Day Hospital in Weston-super-Mare. Both units are proposed to be staffed by the Hospital Management Committee concerned and the Local Health Authority are being asked to provide the social work service through their Mental Welfare Officers who will have appropriate accommodation in the buildings when ready.

#### (5) HOME VISITING

Some 632 patients were receiving home visits. These patients were not in attendance either at training centres, receiving home training, or resident in hostel accommodation or private care.

#### General Statistics

The number of patients in the Local Health Authority area on the waiting list for admission to hospital care as at 31st December, 1961, was 16. Those waiting admission, but not in urgent need of hospital care totalled 10.

The establishment of St. Margaret's aftercare and holiday home by voluntary organisations in 1960 enabled 78 patients to be admitted for temporary residential care during the year while 10 patients were admitted in similar circumstances to hospital as appropriate.

The following indicates the number of patients referred to the Local Health Authority during the year ended 31st December, 1961, under the provisions of the Mental Health Act, 1959.

Mentally Ill	Psychopath	Subnormal	Severely Subnormal	Total
1541	36	84	53	1714

The following summarises the visits paid by Mental Welfare Officers under the National Health Service and Mental Health Acts during the period ended 31st October, 1961.

Guardianship Cases	Aftercare	Other	Total Visits
1037	9805	2953	13795

The following summarises the cases dealt with as informal patients or under the provisions of Part IV of the Mental Health Act, 1959.

Informal	Sec. 25/29	Sec. 26/30	Total Admissions	Other Action
513	331	76	920	6524

The following table indicates the admissions to guardianship of the Local Health Authority, or other guardian, during the year ended 31st December, 1961.

Mentally Ill	Psychopath	Subnormal	Severely Subnormal	Total
-	-	7	165	172

Some indication of the growth of the Council's Mental Health Services in the past ten years may be found in the table below:-

Service or Scheme	1951	1961
Mental Welfare Officers	8 (4 part-time)	20 (1 part-time)
Visits by field staff to the :-		
Mentally ill	879	7,450
Mentally subnormal	1,023	14,795
Hospital admissions	425	920
Training Centres		
Number of Centres	5	7
Registered pupils	106	305
Centre staff (Teachers)	13	31
Hostels	-	2
Social Clubs	-	4
Total annual cost of Mental Health Services	£26,000	£91,000

#### (6) STAFFING

I referred to staff employed in my Department in the Mental Health Services in some detail in my last annual report. The position during 1961 remains much the same as it was in 1960 with one exception. The establishment of mental welfare officers has been augmented by the appointment of two additional experienced field officers and two trainee mental welfare officers to meet the growing demands in the Council's work in prevention, care and aftercare, of patients suffering from mental disorder.

The Training Centres staff has been maintained as far as possible within a ratio of one teacher for every ten pupils. Two assistants who were released to take the Diploma Course of the National Association for Mental Health have returned to your service having been successful in obtaining the qualification they sought.

Staff training both as regards social workers in mental health and teaching and supervisory staff at the Training Centres is an important feature in the Mental Health Service and the need to recruit qualified staff in both spheres is emphasised by the Younghusband Report and in the evidence given to the Scott Report on Training Centre Staff.

## WATER SUPPLIES

The year, judging from figures supplied by the Somerset River Board, was exceptionally dry with a general rainfall of 29.85 inches, although the falls in January and February were well above the average. The Meteorological Office have three classifications for heavy falls in short periods, namely "Very Rare", "Remarkable" and "Noteworthy". Not once during the year did the rainfall qualify for one of these classifications.

With regard to water supplies generally, these appear to have been adequate in quality but several Authorities suffered shortages and were forced to apply restrictions, some being continued into the early part of December.

Dulverton Rural District Council are experiencing considerable difficulties in connection with shortages and works are urgently needed to augment the Brompton Regis, Exford and Winsford supplies.

Taunton Rural District Council also had difficulties and a severe shortage occurred in the Eastern Parishes area. In order to remedy this a booster pump was installed at Wrantage, North Curry.

Extensions or improvements of supplies carried out during the year were as follows. Future proposals are also shown.

### BOROUGHS AND URBAN DISTRICTS:

**BRIDGWATER.** The construction of trunk mains to improve pressure and distribution were carried out during the year.

**CHARD.** Consistently low well levels from August onwards meant that greater reliance had to be placed upon the output of the bore. In addition more water had to be purchased from the Chard Rural District Council. It is considered that the low annual rainfall was the chief cause of the difficulties experienced during the latter part of 1961.

**GLASTONBURY.** Work carried out by the Bristol Waterworks Company during the year concerned the conversion of the pumping plants at Wellhouse Lane and Edgarley Reservoir to fully automatic control.

**NORTON RADSTOCK.** Only minor extensions were carried out during the year. In view of the regrouping of water undertakers which is taking place in the Mendip area, extensions and alterations are being kept to a minimum so as not to complicate negotiations which are proceeding with the Bristol Waterworks Company.

MINEHEAD. A new 4" main from Camp Hill Reservoir to Turnhill Lea Reservoir was laid during the year. Future proposals are concerned with the provision of a new 12" borehole at Moor Brake with rising main to Camp Hill Reservoir and the laying of 8" trunk mains from Middlecombe to a new Reservoir of 250,000 gallons capacity at Hopcott and from the Reservoir to the new Butlin's Holiday Camp.

STREET. A further submersible pump was installed in Honeyhurst Well.

TAUNTON. Work continued on the Eastern Parishes Scheme. The Inauguration Ceremony in connection with the Clatworthy Reservoir Scheme was performed by H.R.H. Princess Alexandra on the 6th July, 1961. Since the early part of the year water has been supplied in bulk to the Rural District Councils of Williton, Wellington and Taunton, and a considerable quantity has been used in the Borough of Taunton's Statutory Water Area.

WELLS. Works carried out by the Bristol Waterworks Company. The borehole in the Rookham Valley, which had proved abortive, was treated with acid in order to open the fissures in the carboniferous limestone. This resulted in a yield from the borehole of 50,000/70,000 gallons per day. A new borehole pump was also installed at the Athletic Ground. A scheme is in course of preparation for further augmenting the City supply by laying a new main from the existing water treatment plant at Cheddar Reservoir.

#### RURAL DISTRICTS:

AXBIDGE. A 4" main, between Crickham and Blackford, was replaced by the Bristol Waterworks Company with 4595 yards of new 6" asbestos cement main. A 6" main extension between Brent Knoll and Berrow, where a serious summer water shortage has existed for many years, was also completed. Structural improvements were also made to the reservoirs at Blackdown Springs and Cheddar Cliffs, and a comprehensive scheme for the Bleadon Hill area was commenced. This provides for the laying of one mile of 4" and 6" main and the provision of a 200,000 gallon capacity reservoir at the top of Bleadon Hill.

BATHAVON. No major works or improvements were carried out during the year but future proposals include an extension of the mains in the Parish of Corston near to the Wheatsheaf Inn.

**BRIDGWATER.** The Water Supply Scheme for Broomfield and Merridge was completed, also the provision of an improved public supply for Thurloxtion. In order to improve supplies in the Polden Hill area the District Council are to provide new pumping plant at the Bath Road Booster Station to replace the existing pump which is totally inadequate.

**DULVERTON.** Although no major works were carried out during the year the District Council are to proceed with the replacement and improvement of supplies in the Dulverton and Brushford area early in 1962. Tenders for this work have been invited. At Skilgate the renewal of a defective main is necessary and a tender for the work has been accepted. The Council are also anxious to proceed with a scheme for the replacement of a defective main and small mains extensions at Winsford and Exford for which plans are in course of preparation. A small scheme is in course of preparation for the augmentation of the supply at Brompton Regis.

The Council's proposals to carry out more comprehensive schemes at Exford and Winsford were deferred pending the formation of the proposed West Somerset Water Board and as a result only essential works of mains relaying are now being carried out. The Council are most anxious, however, that more comprehensive schemes for these two Parishes will receive top priority when the Board is formed.

**LONG ASHTON.** This District is now well served by a mains supply and no works were carried out during the year. An extension of the Bristol Waterworks Company's main to the Littleton area has become necessary and a scheme is now in course of preparation.

**SHEPTON MALLET.** Apart from the laying of a short length of main at Stratton-on-the-Fosse no other works were completed. The Bristol Waterworks Company are still in the process of laying a 3" main to serve West Cranmore, Waterlip and the Longcross areas in the Parishes of Doulting and Cranmore. Other works proposed include the provision of 3" mains to serve the Bath Road area of Oakhill, the Brook House area of Ditcheat and at Back Lane, Croscombe.

**TAUNTON.** Main laying at Kingston St. Mary, Ash Priors, Halse and Combe Florey has now been completed and work has commenced on the provision of a supply to Durston and West Hatch.

**WELLINGTON:** Considerable progress is being made in connection with the District Council's proposals for the Northern and Central Parishes which, when completed, will link most of the supplies in the

District with the Taunton Clatworthy Scheme. Other works proposed are concerned with the Regional Scheme from which extensions are to be made to serve Wrangway and the adjoining district of Wellington Without and Whitefield. Mains are also to be laid from West Buckland to serve Ford Street, (Wellington Without), Foxmoor and from Sampford Moor to Higher Wrangway.

**WELLS.** A new booster was provided at Butleigh by the Bristol Waterworks Company to improve supplies to farms and dwellings in this area. The Company also carried out works at Elderbush Reservoir.

**WILLITON.** Further progress has been made in connection with the District Council's Clatworthy Scheme and Reservoirs were provided at Stogumber, Monksilver, Nettlecombe, Washford and Williton. With regard to the Council's Western Parishes Scheme the provision of a main supply at Luccombe and Selworthy was completed. The Council's future proposals include the provision of an improved supply in the Tower Hill area, improvements and extensions at Wootton Courtenay, Holford and Bicknoller and a High Level Scheme for the Parishes of Elworthy, Clatworthy and Brompton Ralph.

**YEOVIL.** The relaying of a 3" main at Hardington Marsh was completed, also the laying of 1½" and ¾" polythene pipe (compensation supply) to properties at Rixon, Stoke-sub-Hamdon. Work on the laying of 2,000 yards of 4" and 500 yards of 3" cast iron main to serve an estate was commenced during the year.

#### REGROUPING OF WATER UNDERTAKINGS:

##### (a) West Somerset Area.

Considerable progress has been made with the formation of a Water Board for this area which should become operative on the 1st April, 1963. The Board will take over the undertakings operated by nine Local Authorities and one private Waterworks Company.

##### (b) Wessex Area.

Here again progress has been made in the formation of a Board which will, from the 1st April, 1963, take over the undertakings of ten Local Authorities which includes the Urban and Rural Districts of Sherborne in Dorset.

##### (c) Mendip Area.

The Bristol Waterworks Company have already taken over twelve

Schemes approved under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Acts, 1944 – 61, during the year were as follows:—

Rural District	Scheme	Estimated Cost (as submitted)
		£      s.      d.
Bathavon	Wansdyke Corner, Marksbury — Extension of Water Main ...	2,604 0 0
Bridgwater	Thurloxton and Shearston (North Petherton) — Water Mains Extension ... ... ...	4,525 0 0
Dulverton	Dulverton and Brushford — Improvement of Water Supplies	10,000 0 0
Dulverton	Skilgate — Renewal of Water Mains	1,650 0 0
Langport	Western Parishes — Augmentation of Water Supplies ... ...	47,950 0 0
Wells	Coxley Wick — Water Main Extension ... ... ...	3,328 0 0
Williton	Heddon Oak, Stogumber — Extension of Water Mains ... ...	800 0 0
Williton	Old Cleeve, Chapel Cleeve and Bilbrook — Acquisition of Water Supply ... ... ...	3,000 0 0
Williton	Porlock Water Main Extensions — (1) Drang to Lowerbourne ... (2) High Bank ... ...	525 0 0 800 0 0
Wincanton	Abbas and Templecombe — Renewal of Water Mains ... ...	4,465 0 0
Wincanton	Cucklington and Stoke Trister — Renewal of Water Mains ...	8,835 0 0
Yeovil	Larkhill Lane, Yeovil Without — Extension of Water Mains ...	3,750 0 0
		£92,232 0 0

Schemes approved prior to 1961 but costs and/or proposals revised and re-submitted:-

Rural District	Scheme	Revised Cost
		£      s.      d.
Bridgwater	Long Term Proposals - First Stage Works     ...     ...	86,050    0    0
Bridgwater	Pawlett, Puriton, East and West Huntspill - Augmentation of Water Supply     ...     ...	32,500    0    0
Yeovil	Hardington Marsh - Renewal of Water Main     ...     ...	2,000    0    0
		£120,550    0    0

undertakings from Local Authorities and negotiations are proceeding for a take over of those Authorities where marked with an asterisk. The position, therefore, in the Northern part of the County is as follows:—

Boroughs and Urbans	Rurals
Weston-super-Mare	Axbridge
Clevedon	Long Ashton
Portishead	Clutton
Keynsham	* Bathavon
* Norton Radstock	* Frome
* Frome	Shepton Mallet
Shepton Mallet	Wells
Wells	
Glastonbury	
* Street	
* Burnham-on-Sea	

Excluding those Orders concerned with Regrouping of Water Undertakings, the following have been considered and approved during the year.

#### THE TAUNTON CORPORATION WATER ORDER, 1961

The Taunton Corporation made application to the Ministry of Health for an Order under the Water Act, 1945, to extend their area of supply to include the Parishes of Durston and the Tone Vale area of Bishops Lydeard.

#### CONDITIONS OF CONTRIBUTION

The review of the conditions of contribution towards Water Supplies and Sewage Disposal Schemes of Rural District Councils and to which I referred in my last report, is still under discussion with the Somerset Branch of the Rural District Councils' Association.

#### WATER SAMPLES

Classification of raw and treated water samples submitted for bacteriological and chemical examination.

	Raw Water				Treated after going into supply			
	Bacteriological		Chemical		Bacteriological		Chemical	
	No. Taken	Satis- factory	No. Taken	Satis- factory	No. Taken	Satis- factory	No. Taken	Satis- factory
Boroughs and Urbans	278	181	72	72	731	698	48	47
Rurals	599	424	90	88	1,004	947	133	130
Totals	877	605	162	160	1,735	1,645	181	177

The following figures refer to samples taken from well water supplies:-

	Boroughs and Urbans		Rurals	
	No. Taken	Satisfactory	No. Taken	Satisfactory
Bacteriological	122	36	230	113
Chemical	1	-	3	1

Details concerning the substitution of piped supplies for well water and other sources of supply during 1961 were as follows:-

	Boroughs and Urbans	Rurals	Total
Well water	-	139	139
Private source	-	54	54
Other (Springs, etc.)	-	10	10
Wells closed during year	1	62	63

## SEWAGE DISPOSAL

As I mentioned last year expenditure on schemes of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal continues at a very high level. This is inevitable and will continue until all Villages in the County are adequately sewered.

Schemes carried out or still in progress during the year are as follows:—

### BOROUGHS AND URBAN DISTRICTS

**BRIDGWATER.** A sewerage system for Colley Lane at a cost of £6,460 was completed. In addition two new 21 inch diameter storm pumps were provided at the Pumping Station at Colley Lane.

**BURNHAM-ON-SEA.** Included in the District Council's future proposals is a scheme for an outfall sewer at Clyce Road. With regard to the Council's Main Drainage Scheme, a hydrographical survey report is awaited to ascertain the best position for a new main outfall.

**CHARD.** Future proposals of the Council are largely concerned with extensions and other ancillary work, also the seweraging of industrial sites.

**CLEVEDON.** Proposals to provide a relief sewerage system in the town are well advanced.

**CREWERNE.** The modernisation of the Eastern Outfall Sewage Disposal Works and Sewerage System, in progress since the end of 1959, was completed. The estimated cost of this amounted to £66,000.

**FROME.** Works of improvement at the Sewage Disposal Works are now in progress.

**KEYNSHAM.** The Council have included in their future proposals, the reconstruction of the Sewage Disposal Works, including sections of new and reconstructed sewers. The estimated cost of this work amounts to £283,000.

**NORTON-RADSTOCK.** Work completed comprised the provision of new sludge drying beds and alterations affecting disposal of sludge from Humus tanks and Storm Water tanks at the Radstock Works. The Council have under discussion the provision of a Valley Sewer running from Westfield to Radstock.

**STREET.** Work on provision of new percolating filters, sludge drying beds and new pumps at the Sewage Disposal Works were completed during 1961. The cost of this work amounts to £9,000.

**TAUNTON.** Work on the laying of a storm water sewer in the Galmington area was completed. The provision of a foul sewer along Priory Bridge Road, a storm water sewer along the Wellington Road and a Foul Sewer Pumping Station at Priorswood Road are included in the Council's future proposals.

**WESTON-SUPER-MARE.** Considerable progress has been made in connection with the Council's Main Drainage Scheme and work nearing completion includes the provision of a Pumping Station, Town Trunk Sewer, that part of the scheme referred to as Worle(Phase I) and the Town Development Plan. Work has also been commenced on the Worle (Phase II) and other minor works concerning the Town Development Housing Site and the sewerage of the Winterstoke Road area. Included under future proposals are extensions to the Main Drainage Scheme which are estimated to cost £750,000 and which should be completed in 1964.

**YEOVIL.** The Council are constructing an experimental plant at their Sewage Purification Works for the treatment of trade waste.

#### RURAL DISTRICTS

**AXBIDGE.** Sewer extensions at Round Oak Road and Redcliff Street, Cheddar, were completed. The privately constructed sewerage scheme at St. Georges in the Parish of Banwell was taken over by the Council during the year. Work is now in progress on the extension of a sewer at Southmead, Winscombe. So far as future proposals are concerned, plans are well advanced for a sewerage scheme at Wedmore, (£44,400), Hutton, Banwell and Locking (Phases I & II), (£64,000), Brean and Berrow, Kewstoke and Bleadon.

**BATHAVON.** A sewer extension to serve the outlying part of Bathampton was completed and work continued on the laying of sewers and construction of Sewage Disposal Works for the Parishes of Newton St. Loe and Corston. With regard to the District Council's future proposals they are anxious to proceed with an extension of the sewers to serve the Lower Peasedown area, also the re-sewering and provision of new Disposal Works for the Village of Wellow. Other works include an extension of sewers to serve Brewery Lane and New Road in the Parish of Bathford.

**BRIDGWATER.** Although I mentioned last year that proposals were well advanced for schemes covering the Parishes of Chedzoy, East Huntspill, Woolavington and Nether Stowey, little progress was made during the year, although a Ministry investigation was held in connection with the Chilton Polden Scheme.

**CHARD.** During the year the Council purchased from the Air Ministry the Sewerage System and Disposal Works at Ilton. Considerable progress was made on the scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal covering the Villages of Seavington, Hinton St. George and Lopen. This work is well ahead of schedule and should be completed in September, 1962, (£72,000). So far as the scheme for Broadway and Horton is concerned, work commenced in 1961 and should be completed in March, 1963, (£49,996). Other schemes which the Council hope to complete some time during the next two or three years concern the Parish of Donyatt, approved by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and upon which work should commence early in 1962; improvements to the Sewage Disposal Works at Tatworth, this has also been approved by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government; improvements to the Works at Merriott and Misterton, and a scheme of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal for the Parish of Dowlish Wake.

**CLUTTON.** Work on the sewerage scheme for Chew Magna and Bishop Sutton was still in progress at the end of the year. This project is estimated to cost £250,000. Major works included in the Council's future proposals provide for the laying of a trunk sewer at Timsbury and High Littleton, (£190,000), a scheme for Chilcompton, (£55,000), and a smaller scheme for the Timsbury, Lippiatt Lane area, (£9,200).

**DULVERTON.** No extensions or improvements were carried out during the year, although included in the Council's future proposals programme is a scheme for the Parish of Winsford which is estimated to cost £28,000.

**FROME.** Work on the provision of sewerage and sewage disposal for the Parishes of Norton St. Philip and Nunney were in progress at the end of the year. With regard to the Council's future proposals, schemes have been approved by the County Council for the Parishes of Leigh-on-Mendip, (£27,000), and Wanstrow, (£26,000).

**LANGPORT.** The scheme for Curry Rivel was completed during the year and good progress made in connection with the Langport and Huish Episcopi Sewerage Scheme. At Kingsbury Episcopi where modernisation of the Works is being carried out, work was still in progress.

**LONG ASHTON.** Considerable progress was made on works of sewerage and sewage disposal by this Authority during 1961 and at Nailsea, Stage 3 of the sewerage and sewage disposal scheme was completed. This comprised the laying of sewers to serve the Village and the Old Church areas. In addition an extension of the sewer was carried out to Farleigh Church Lane and Church Town, Backwell, and a surface water drainage scheme for Lodway in the Parish of Easton-in-Gordano was also brought to an end. Work still in hand at the end of the year concerned the sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for Winford and Felton, (£124,243), also the replacement of pumping plant and the installation of new pumps and comminutor at the Sewage Pumping Station at Yatton. Other works proposed in the near future provide for a sewerage and sewage disposal scheme to serve the Bridgwater Road and Barrow Lane area in the Parishes of Long Ashton and Dundry. This scheme has recently been revised to allow for the drainage to discharge to the Bristol Corporation sewers which will obviate the provision of disposal works. Ministry approval to this scheme is still awaited. The County Council's proposal to review the development of Nailsea and to ensure the development of a new town centre to serve an ultimate population of about 20,500 in the Town Map Area, calls for amended sewerage and sewage disposal facilities. The proposal to provide a sea outfall scheme for this area coincides very well with the latest planning proposals and work is now proceeding on the preparation of a supplementary scheme to drain Nailsea and the surrounding villages. This will necessitate the provision of a fairly comprehensive system of both foul and surface water sewers.

Other schemes included in the future proposals programme concern the Parishes of North Weston, where there is to be a joint scheme with the Portishead Urban District Council; at Yatton where a relief sewer is proposed in order to relieve surcharging of the Yatton sewers, and finally the provision of a trunk sewer with sea outfall in the Clevedon area. Hydrographical surveys in connection with this trunk sea outfall were carried out during 1961. A further paragraph on the subject of Sea Outfall Sewers appears on a later page.

**SHEPTON MALLET.** Although no major schemes were completed during the year, progress was being made in connection with the reconstruction of Sewage Disposal Works at Evercreech, which also provides for a short sewer extension to the Bell Inn area. There are five major schemes included under this Council's future programme and concern the Parishes of Holcombe, (£50,000), Pilton, (£45,400), Ditcheat (Village only), (£36,050), West Cranmore, (£22,600), and finally the reconstruction of the Sewage Disposal Works at Oakhill (Ashwick), (£24,000).

TAUNTON. Work on the seweraging of the Parish of Creech St. Michael was completed at an estimated cost of £42,784. With regard to the provision of sewers for the Parishes of Trull and Pitminster, this work was still in hand at the end of the year. The approximate cost of this work amounts to £53,000. Little progress has been made in connection with schemes for the Parishes of Stoke St. Gregory, North Curry, Churchstanton and Hatch Beauchamp.

WELLINGTON. Although no works of sewerage and sewage disposal were carried out during the course of the year, the Authority have included in their future proposal programme the relaying of sewers at Wiveliscombe, (£30,000), a major scheme for the Parish of Bradford-on-Tone, (£45,000), Fitzhead, Sampford Arundel, and the relaying of sewers at Milverton.

WELLS. The District Council's future proposals include the provision of a sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for Easton and Westbury, (£88,333), Rodney Stoke and Draycott, (£46,000), both of which have received the County Council's approval and the Parishes of Butleigh and Baltonsborough, (£68,500). There is also the balance of the comprehensive scheme in the Parish of St. Cuthbert Out to be completed. This concerns the seweraging of the Glencot, Elm Close and Haybridge areas.

WILLITON. Schemes for the Parishes of Blue Anchor and Old Cleeve, (Roadwater and Washford), were proceeding satisfactorily at the end of 1961. The Council's future proposals include the provision of a surface water and relief sewer at Porlock, the relaying of sewers in the Masons Arms area at Williton, a major scheme for Selworthy and Luccombe, also Bicknoller, St. Audries, Sampford Brett and Stogumber and sewer extensions at Stogursey.

WINCANTON. The District Council intend to proceed with their scheme for North Cadbury which is awaiting final approval from the Ministry, (£22,500), and the Charlton Horethorne Sewerage Scheme which is at present under discussion with the Ministry, (£34,000).

YEOVIL. The joint scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal for the Parishes of Martock, Montacute and Stoke-sub-Hamdon. (£55,000), was still in progress at the end of the year. Schemes proposed, to be carried out in order of priority, in the near future concern the villages of Ash and Tintinhull, (£42,500), and the provision of new works at South Petherton, (£35,000).

Investigations and/or Inquiries held by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government into Rural Water Supply and Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Schemes during the year numbered twelve, all of which the County Health Inspector attended to give evidence on behalf of the County Council.

### SEA OUTFALL SEWERS

As mentioned last year, following representations made by the National Farmers Union and other interested parties concerning the unsatisfactory state of water courses in and around Nailsea, the District Council were asked to investigate the possibility of providing a trunk sewerage system with a sea outfall. A specialist firm were engaged to carry out a hydrographical survey in the area of the Bristol Channel, off Clevedon, with a view to finding a suitable location for a submarine outfall to serve Nailsea and Backwell. They have advised that comminuted sewage from a population of 35,000 could be discharged at a point North-West of Blackstone Rocks some 3,500 feet from the sea wall without causing any pollution of the adjacent coast line. Their estimate for laying 2 – 18 inch diameter pipes, each 3,500 feet long, was given as £145,000. This figure is inclusive of all materials for the work – exclusive of pumping and ancillary works on land.

### PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1961

The Public Health Act, 1961, the provisions of which came into force on the 3rd October, contains some important sections concerning trade effluents and the provision of sewers.

**FARM EFFLUENTS.** Section 63 extends the definition of trade effluent to include effluents from land or premises used for agricultural or horticultural purposes or for scientific research or experiment and thus brings them within the scope of the Public Health (Drainage of Trade Premises) Act, 1937, and the 1961 Act.

The Act applies to existing discharges that are not already the subject of an Agreement between the farmer and the Local Authority as well as to any proposed new discharges. Farmers now have the right, subject to the consent of the Local Authority, to discharge farm effluent into public sewers. Before beginning to make such a discharge, however, the owner or occupier of the premises concerned must serve on the Local Authority, a trade effluent notice stating the nature or composition of the effluent, the maximum quantity proposed to be discharged on any one day and the highest rate of discharge. Suitable charges can be levied by local authorities for this service.

TRADE EFFLUENTS. The Act also makes provision to enable Local Authorities to charge for certain effluents which have previously been exempt, also to vary charges and requirements imposed in the past. These amendments are based on the recommendations made by the Trade Effluents Sub-Committee to which I referred last year.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO COST OF SEWERS. Another important Section empowers Local Authorities to recover contributions towards the cost of constructing public sewers to serve new development.

#### RIVERS (PREVENTION OF POLLUTION) ACT, 1961

The principal effect of this Act is to further extend the powers of the River Boards enabling them to control the discharge of trade or sewage effluent to rivers and streams not already controlled under the 1951 Act.

#### LAND DRAINAGE ACT, 1961

In the main this Act is designed to assist River and Catchment Boards by allowing them to raise drainage charges for the purpose of meeting part of their expenses. Part II deals with Miscellaneous Provisions as to land drainage and Drainage Boards and Part III is concerned with the restoration and improvement of ditches.

#### GRANTS TOWARDS WATER SUPPLIES AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEMES BY THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

In Circular 15/61 the Ministry of Housing and Local Government drew the attention of all Authorities to the revised basis upon which Ministry grants would be assessed on schemes of Water Supplies and Sewage Disposal and for which tenders were submitted on or after the 1st April, 1961.

In the past Ministry grants have served two purposes. One, to assist Local Authorities who had, in general, rating resources below those of Urban Authorities, and the other to relieve the relatively heavy burden of Water and Sewage Schemes in sparsely populated areas. It is well known that the changes made by the Local Government Act, 1958, assured every area, whether Urban or Rural, of financial resources up to the average and the Minister now considers it reasonable that specific grants should, in future, be directed towards meeting the higher costs of Rural Water Supplies and Sewage Schemes when compared with the cost

of such schemes in Urban areas. The higher costs of Rural Schemes are primarily due to the need to lay long lengths of main or sewer to serve comparatively few properties. Broadly speaking the cost of developing sources of water or of providing Sewage Disposal Works are the same in Rural as in Urban areas and it is, therefore, proposed that grants paid for Rural Schemes shall, in future, be related to the main or sewer length. Costs attributable to head works in Water Schemes or to Disposal Works in Sewerage Schemes will be ignored. Further, as the purpose of the proposal is to provide help in meeting the additional cost falling on Rural areas, some deduction will be made from the actual costs incurred in laying mains or sewers since these also have to be provided in Urban areas. A formula for both Water and Sewerage Schemes is set out in the aforementioned Circular and it is the Minister's intention that the Scheme should operate for a period of three years from the 1st April, 1961, after which the formulae will be reviewed.

Schemes approved under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Acts, 1944 – 61, during the year were as follows:—

Rural District	Scheme	Estimated Cost (as submitted)
		£      s.      d.
Axbridge	Banwell — St. Georges, Worle — Sewer Extension ... ...	1,892 0 0
Axbridge	(1) Brean and Berrow (2) Kewstoke Sewerage Schemes — Proposed Sea Outfalls (Hydrographical Survey)	3,000 0 0
Axbridge	Winscombe — Sewer Extension to Southmead ... ... ...	1,655 0 0
Bathavon	Warminster Road, Bathampton — Extension of Sewer ... ...	2,380 0 0
Chard	Merryfield, Ilton — Acquisition of Air Ministry Sewage Disposal Works ... ... ...	2,838 0 0
Clutton	Chilcompton Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme (Stage I) ...	55,100 0 0
Frome	Kilmersdon Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme — Sewer Extensions ... ... ...	1,638 0 0
Frome	Leigh-on-Mendip Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme ...	36,490 0 0
Frome	Wanstrow Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme ... ...	26,200 0 0
Langport	Westover, Langport — Extension of Sewer ... ... ...	2,578 0 0
Long Ashton	Church Town, Backwell — Sewer Extension ... ... ...	1,950 0 0
Long Ashton	Farleigh, Backwell — Extension of Sewers ... ... ...	602 0 0
Long Ashton	Nailsea and Backwell Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme — Proposed Sea Outfall — (Hydrographical Survey) ...	2,832 0 0
Long Ashton	Nailsea Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme (Stage III) — Sewer Extensions ... ...	13,900 0 0
Long Ashton	Winford — Sewer Extensions ...	2,143 0 0
Long Ashton	Yatton — Proposed Relief Sewer	20,000 0 0
Long Ashton	Yatton Sewerage Scheme — Pumping Station ... ... ...	3,000 0 0

(continued overleaf)

Rural District	Scheme	Estimated Cost (as submitted)		
		£	s.	d.
Shepton Mallet	Ditcheat Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme ... ...	37,050	0	0
Shepton Mallet	Holcombe Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme ... ...	50,000	0	0
Wellington	Wiveliscombe - Relaying of Sewers	29,000	0	0
Wells	Butleigh and Baltonsborough - Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme ... ... ...	68,500	0	0
Wells	Wookey Hole Road - Sewer Extension	1,040	0	0
Williton	Porlock - Sparkhayes Lane - Relaying of Sewers ... ...	12,750	0	0
Williton	Selworthy and Lucombe Sewerage Scheme ... ... ...	45,000	0	0
		£421,538	0	0

Schemes approved prior to 1961 but costs and/or proposals revised and re-submitted:—

Rural District	Scheme	Revised Cost £      s.      d.
Bathavon	Peasedown St. John – Lower Peasedown Sewer Extensions	5,130    0    0
Bridgwater	Puriton Sewerage Scheme (2nd Stage) ... ... ...	23,600    0    0
Bridgwater	West Huntspill Sewerage Scheme	61,287    0    0
Chard	Broadway and Horton Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme ...	55,850    0    0
Chard	Lopen, Hinton St. George and Seavingtons Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme ... ...	80,500    0    0
Frome	Norton St. Philip Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme ...	52,100    0    0
Langport	Kingsbury Episcopi – Reconstruction of Sewage Disposal Works ... ... ...	31,517    0    0
Long Ashton	Church Lane, Backwell – Sewer Extension ... ... ...	2,485    0    0
Shepton Mallet	Evercreech Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme ... ...	79,465    0    0
Taunton	Trull and Pitminster Sewerage Scheme ... ... ...	54,800    0    0
		£446,734    0    0

## HOUSING

The Housing Act, 1961, which came into operation on the 24th November, 1961, introduced a new system of housing subsidies and gave to Local Authorities extensive new powers for dealing with bad living conditions in houses let in lodgings or occupied by members of more than one family. Further it made changes in the law affecting condemned houses, improvement grants, applications with regard to repairs and town development.

A White Paper explaining the policy embodied in the 1961 Act and the main reasons for it was issued in February, 1961, and contains some interesting statistics in regard to housing generally. For example, there are approximately  $14\frac{1}{3}$  million houses in England and Wales, almost 11 million being privately owned and around  $3\frac{1}{2}$  million publicly owned.  $3\frac{1}{4}$  million houses and flats have been provided since 1945, of which approximately 43,800 have been constructed in Somerset.

With regard to Improvement Grants generally, i.e. the "Standard" and "Discretionary", Part III of the 1961 Act is designed to assist landlords of property by way of raising the permitted return on their share of the expenditure from 8 per cent, per annum. This was introduced as it was found that the old limit was insufficient under present day conditions to make such expenditure on improvements a worthwhile proposition. Various other amendments are made in connection with Improvement Grants; for example the definition of the standard amenity "a hot water supply" is now extended to read "a hot water supply at a fixed bath or shower in a bathroom and at a wash-hand basin and at a sink". This new definition is intended to clarify the original clause which was to ensure that on completion of works for which a standard grant is payable, a supply of hot water would be available at each of the three points. Another anomaly which has been amended is that the standard amenity "a water closet in or contiguous to the dwelling" now reads that the water closet "must if reasonably practicable be in and accessible from within the dwelling".

Details concerning applications received for both "Standard" and "Discretionary" Grants and approved by Local Authorities during 1961 are set out in the following Table:—

	Applications			
	Received		Approved	
	Boroughs & Urbans	Rurals	Boroughs & Urbans	Rurals
Discretionary ...	224	479	177	469
Standard ...	324	489	304	478
Totals ...	548	968	481	947

From information provided it would seem that of the 646 applications approved for "Discretionary" Grants during the year, 348 were from owner/occupiers.

The position in the County with regard to Clearance Areas, unfit properties etc. at the end of 1961 is as follows:—

	Action during year							Rent Act, 1957 (1st Schedule)	
	Number of houses demolished or closed under Section 42 of the Housing Act 1957 (Clearance Areas)	Number of houses demolished or closed		Number of temporary dwellings, huts etc. demolished	Number of houses declared unfit under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957 (capable of repair)	Number of unfit houses occupied under licence	Number of houses made fit during year	Certificate of Disrepair	
		under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957 (individual unfits)	for other purposes (Road Improvements etc.)					Number of applications received	Number of Certificates issued
Boroughs & Urbans	111	248	50	9	165	18	398	8	4
Rurals	168	217	5	1	650	2	788	5	1
Totals	279	465	55	10	815	20	1,186	13	5

At the end of 1960 there were 9,074 applicants for Council houses of which 2,994 were considered to be urgent bona fide cases. The position has not improved — there now being 9,427 applicants, that is 353 up on 1960. It is not possible on this occasion to say how many were urgent cases as some Authorities were still carrying out surveys to obtain this information. No doubt the "credit squeeze" aggravated the position and the demolition programme, which continued at an increased rate, did not help matters.

Details concerning houses erected during the year were as follows:—

Local Authority	—	1,072
Private Enterprise	—	2,549

It has been estimated that in recent years the number of households has increased at twice the rate of population increase due to the fact that people are living longer and marrying younger — thus the problem of providing sufficient housing accommodation is likely to be with us for a very long time.

**HOUSING OLD PEOPLE (OLD PEOPLE'S DWELLINGS).** Last year I drew attention to the work being carried out by Local Authorities and the County Council in connection with the provision of suitable dwellings for elderly folk. Some figures were also given as to applications for such dwellings and the progress being made towards meeting the ever increasing demand for such semi-communal accommodation. The County Council have given every encouragement to District Councils to provide more Old People's Dwellings as they serve a threefold purpose. Namely they enable old people to maintain their own home as long as possible; they reduce the demand for accommodation in County Council Homes, and finally relieve larger houses for use by younger people.

The following Table emphasises the problem only too well.

	Number of Applicants for Old People's Dwellings at		Number erected		Number of Dwellings in course of Erection	
	31.12.60.	31.12.61.	To 31.12.60.	To 31.12.61.	1960	1961
Boroughs & Urbans	1,083	1,200	537	664	116	148
Rurals	553	692	311	559	140	168
Totals	1,636	1,892	848	1,223	256	316

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Conversions from pail and other types of closet to a water carriage system numbered 537. Although well above the yearly average, it is not a complete figure as some Authorities do not maintain records of such changes.

### CESSPOOL EMPTYING

There was little change during the year concerning the arrangements for cesspool emptying. Where local authorities provide a service the charge levied is either based on the load, size of cesspool or on an hourly basis.

### SCHOOL SANITATION

Work outstanding in the 1960/61 Sanitary Improvement Programme, which included the following schools, has now been completed:—

Swainswick V.C.  
Wellow V.C.  
Wells St. Thomas V.C.

In addition to the above Freshford V.C. School was connected to the main sewer. So far as major works are concerned there are still seven schools falling within this category but in most cases these cannot be dealt with until mains water or sewers are provided.

I should mention that as the result of a Ministry of Education Circular issued in July, which dealt with the control of capital expenditure on Education buildings, the 1961/62 Programme was abandoned and a new Programme introduced, starting in October, 1961, and terminating on the 31st March, 1963. For this period a sum of approximately £3,000 has been allocated for sanitary improvements.

Last year I mentioned the desirability of providing a hot water supply over wash-hand basins beginning with those schools having the largest number of children in attendance. Some progress was made in this direction during the year and the following schools are now benefiting from this amenity where previously only cold water was available.

Crewkerne V.C. Junior  
Keynsham, Temple Street  
(Temporary County Infants)  
Portishead, St. Peter's V.C.  
Shepton Mallet County Primary  
Street, Hindhayes Infants.

## HOUSE REFUSE

	Removed by		Number of Vehicles Employed
	Direct Labour	Contract	
Boroughs and Urbans	20	—	42
Rurals	12	4	40

## TRADE WASTE

Schemes for the collection of trade waste are operated by the majority of borough and urban authorities. In the rural areas, however, only three authorities are known to operate a service.

## REFUSE DISPOSAL

	Boroughs and Urbans	Rurals
Controlled tipping	18	10
Semi-controlled tipping	1	10
Uncontrolled tips	5	7
Incineration method	4	1

## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS

	Number of Rodent Operators Employed	
	Whole Time	Part Time
Boroughs and Urbans	12	9
Rurals	12	7

Most authorities employing rodent operators either on a full or part time basis seem well pleased with the service provided. Many have contract schemes operating for both business and farm premises.

## CAMPING SITES

A recent Ministry of Housing and Local Government publication on Caravan Parks makes some very apt comments about Caravans in the following terms :—

“Caravans now provide homes for a large number of families, and it is clear that the residential caravan has come to stay, at least for many years ahead. This was one of the assumptions upon which Parliament passed the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

“In addition to the caravans used as homes, many more are used for summer holidays and at weekends and these are likely to increase. The rapid growth of holiday caravanning has also brought problems in its train, and the Act therefore deals with both holiday and residential sites.

“In the past, caravan sites have sometimes been thought bad neighbours. This may have been partly due to a misconception about the sort of people who live in caravans. The Arton Wilson report went into this in some detail and concluded that in occupation and incomes, and standards of behaviour, caravan dwellers were broadly a cross-section of the general population: ‘the average residential caravanner is quite as respectable as the average dweller in bricks and mortar’.

“But sometimes the caravan sites have deserved public and official dislike; too often sites have sprung up in the wrong places, or they have been overcrowded, badly laid out and poorly equipped. These are criticisms of the bad sites, not of the good ones — those which are properly located, well laid out and well equipped. The purpose of the Act is to encourage the good, improve the mediocre and eliminate the bad. Read in conjunction with the Town and Country Planning Acts, it provides for better control over the location of caravan sites in future, and it introduces a licensing system to ensure that authorized sites are properly laid out, equipped and maintained.”

In Somerset, since the introduction of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, local authorities have made considerable progress in improving the standards of caravan sites. Licences for the larger sites are subject to conditions requiring the execution of works up to model standards and generally these have been accepted quite willingly, although where smaller sites are concerned authorities are bound to use some discretion.

Assistance for the gipsy type of caravan dweller, always a major problem, is now being considered by some authorities and one has already obtained planning permission for a small site. This action coincides with the Government's policy on the gipsy population.

#### LAY-BYS – SANITARY CONVENIENCES

During the year representations have been received from the National Farmers' Union about the serious nuisance arising from the misuse of lay-bys, particularly on trunk roads. Some of the lay-bys are used as overnight halts by through traffic bound for South-West holiday resorts and the absence of sanitary facilities has given rise to serious nuisances. Because of this farmers and the general public have had every reason to complain about the state of the countryside adjacent to lay-bys.

Whilst the problem is a national one, it has particular impact in the South-West because of the increasingly large number of people who choose this area for their holidays.

The matter has been raised with the County Councils' Association and other Local Authority Associations with a view to seeking the co-operation of the Ministries of Transport and Housing and Local Government in an endeavour to find a solution to this problem.

## SWIMMING BATHS

The impetus and interest in providing swimming facilities at County school establishments is ever increasing. Whilst only three pools were completed during the year applications were made for a further eight projects. This brings the total number of pools to forty-five divided amongst the various types of schools as follows:-

	Secondary Technical	Secondary Grammar	Secondary Modem	Primary
Pools in use ...	1	6	9	6
Under construction or proposes ...	-	2	14	7
	1	8	23	13

In the past the fill and empty type of pool has been the rule but there is a growing interest in projects involving the installation of modern purification plant and many schools where filled and empty pools exist are considering renovations and improvements including recirculation and filtration. On the whole improvised filtration apparatus, however ingenious, is not entirely satisfactory and should be discouraged if there is the possibility of raising funds for more up-to-date plant.

Many advisory visits have been made by the County Health Inspector's staff and numerous suggestions for the improvement of pool hygiene implemented. Schools contemplating new pools have also been given preliminary advice on the design and construction of various types of pools.

Schools continue to make weekly returns of residual chlorine readings and check tests have been made at most pools, showing free available chlorine to be present within the limits recommended of 0.2 - 0.5 parts per million.

Grants not exceeding £200 are made by the Education Committee to those schools who construct their own permanent pools. Thirty-four grants have so far been made and it is estimated that well over 4,000 children have now been taught to swim.

The largest and most enterprising scheme completed during the year was a pool of 43,000 gallons capacity at King Arthur's Secondary School, Wincanton. The construction was carried out by the boys and masters of the school and included fencing and paved surrounds. A proprietary filtration and chlorination plant was purchased out of funds raised by the school. The whole of the work was carried out for a sum of approximately £2,500.

The following Table gives details of pools in the County, type of water used, treatment and sample results.

	Number of Baths				Water Used			Treatment			Samples taken				
	Local Authority	Private Enterprise	Schools		Main	Sea	Other	Recirculation	Filtration	Automatic	Hand	Residual			
			Somerset County Council	Other								Chlorination	Bacteriological	Less than 0.2	0.2 to 0.5
Boroughs & Urbans	12	3	10	6	26	5	—	15	15	15	17	145	113	308	123
Rurals	—	9	12	10	21	—	10	9	11	10	22	16	68	536	119

## SUPERVISION OVER THE FOOD SUPPLY

### SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION

The Table 'B' showing the reason for the condemnation of unsound meat contains some very interesting figures relating to Tuberculosis in cattle and calves. It will be seen that only 22 carcasses were condemned for this disease, whereas only five years ago 203 carcasses were condemned out of a smaller number slaughtered. This shows the remarkable improvement in animal health which has taken place since the introduction of the compulsory attested herds scheme, which in turn has brought about a reduction in both the risk to public health and economic loss to the farmers.

Details concerning Slaughterhouses, Bacon Factories and Knackers Yards in the County, also the number of animals inspected etc. are set out in the following Tables.

'A'

	Slaughterhouses/Abattoirs in operation owned or leased by Local Authorities	Private Slaughterhouses		Bacon Factories	Knackers Yards
		Licensed	Operating		
Boroughs & Urbans	4	17	16	4	1
Rurals	—	59	58	1	6
Totals	4	76	74	5	7

'B'

	Cattle and Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
(1) Number inspected	52,158	67,960	220,723	189,693	530,534
(2) All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
(a) Whole carcases con- demned ... ...	489	266	589	712	2,056
(b) Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	12,012	760	9,758	17,254	39,784
(3) Tuberculosis only					
(a) Whole carcases con- demned ... ...	20	2	—	12	34
(b) Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	629	18	—	6,508	7,155
(4) Cysticercosis					
(a) Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	347	—	—	—	347
(b) Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	358	—	—	—	358
(c) Generalised and/or totally condemned	1	—	—	—	—

The total weight of meat condemned during the year amounted to 529,605 lbs. This is not a complete figure for the County as two authorities were unable to provide this information. 77,488 lbs. or 14.6 per cent was affected with tuberculosis.

'C'

MEAT CONDEMNED - 1961					
— in lbs. —					
	Cattle and Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Tuberculosis ...	21,694	394	—	55,400	77,488
Cysticercosis ...	9,049	—	—	—	9,049
Other ...	296,620	14,759	23,574	108,115	443,068
<b>Totals</b> ...	<b>327,363</b>	<b>15,153</b>	<b>23,574</b>	<b>163,515</b>	<b>529,605</b>

#### FOOD HYGIENE

**POULTRY PACKING ESTABLISHMENTS.** A comparatively new Rural Industry to develop in the County on a fairly large scale, is the processing and packing of poultry for the retail trade.

There are now nineteen poultry packing establishments located mainly in the Rural Districts, varying in size from one plant handling up to 30,000 birds per week, down to smaller establishments handling only a few hundred birds. These premises do not come within the definition of slaughterhouses but nevertheless the Food Hygiene Regulations do apply and Local Authorities are responsible for enforcing these provisions to ensure hygienic handling of poultry for human consumption.

A Code of Practice has been issued which deals with the inspection and disposal of suspect birds. Whilst the number of table poultry now being produced makes it impracticable for local authority inspectors to examine every bird or carcase, the Code of Practice is intended to encourage the industry to maintain a system of scrutiny and any birds considered suspect to be put aside for examination by a qualified inspector or alternatively a trained member of the industry's staff.

On the whole the premises appear to have been conducted in a satisfactory manner although in one Rural District it was necessary to institute proceedings against a poultry packer whose premises and methods of handling poultry did not comply with the Regulations.

With the growth of the Broiler Industry and improved methods of poultry display and cold storage in retail shops, it would appear that this new industry is likely to further develop for some years.

#### DESIGNATED MILK (RAW)

**MILK PRODUCERS AND PRODUCER-RETAILERS.** The following details have been provided by the Divisional Executive Officer of the County Agricultural Executive Committee.

	As at 31st December, 1961
Number of Registered Producers in County	6,218
Number licensed to produce "Tuberculin Tested" milk     ...     ...     ...     ...	5,623 (90.4%)
Number of Producer-Retailers of "Tuberculin Tested" milk     ...     ...     ...     ...	293
Licences revoked over past twelve months	24
Producers' Licences under suspension as at 31st December, 1961     ...     ...     ...	25

#### MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS, 1960

The operation of these Regulations has worked extremely well since January, 1961, when the County Council became responsible for the licensing, sampling and supervision of all milk dealers, excluding those in Weston-super-Mare. In view of the number of licensed dealers in the County complaints received about unsatisfactory milk supplies were surprisingly few.

One notice of refusal to issue a Dealer's (Tuberculin Tested) Licence was served on the grounds that the dairyman's arrangements for the storage and handling of milk did not comply with the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959. Plans for the provision of new premises were subsequently received and approved.

The dairy trade have been most co-operative since the inception of the new Regulations and on the whole their standards have been satisfactory. In order, however, to maintain a reasonable standard of hygiene in dairy premises, a system of routine inspections was instituted and every dealer issued with a Pasteurising, Sterilising or Tuberculin Tested Licence was visited. Visits were also paid to the majority of dairymen holding Pre-packed Milk Licences and, of course, re-visits were made whenever failures occurred in order to ascertain the cause.

As will be seen from the following Tables the majority of failures occur where dealers are handling raw Tuberculin Tested milk. This is to be expected as many premises are without suitable refrigeration facilities — which they are not obliged to provide under the Regulations. It is, therefore, quite obvious that if serious deterioration in the keeping quality of the milk is to be avoided it must be distributed as soon as possible after bottling.

Table (A) sets out the number of samples taken from the licensed pasteurising plants and the one sterilising plant. Also shown are details of sample failures recorded during the year.

Table (B) sets out the number of samples collected from licensed dealers and those failing the appropriate tests, and Table (C) is a summary of all dealers samples taken during 1961.

Licences issued and operative as at 31st December, 1961, were as follows:—

Dealer's (Steriliser's) Licences	—	1
Dealer's (Pasteuriser's) Licences	—	19
Dealer's (Tuberculin Tested) Licences—	65	
Dealer's (Pre-packed Milk) Licences	—	464

Finally the overall picture for 1961 is given in the third Table (C).

As was anticipated there was a considerable increase in the number of keeping quality failures in Pasteurised milk. There is no doubt that these were partially due to the fact that the milk, since the introduction of the 1960 Regulations, is now subjected to the Methylene Blue test when the atmospheric shade temperature is within the limit of 70° F. — previously the test became void at a limit of 65° F.

It has been estimated that of all milk sold in England and Wales, 6 per cent. or thereabouts is known to be unpasteurised — the figure for Somerset is possibly less than this. It is unfortunate that although tuber-

culosis has been eradicated in cattle the problem of brucellosis, causing undulant fever in man, still remains as a potential health risk to consumers of raw milk. Whilst pasteurisation kills off the harmful organisms it must be remembered that there are certain areas, for example parts of Dulverton and Williton Rural Districts, where it is virtually impossible for consumers to obtain deliveries of Pasteurised milk, thus many of the community are bound to consume raw Tuberculin Tested milk. So far as this County is concerned the sampling of milk for brucella has been stepped up during the past twelve months and where cattle have been found to harbour this dangerous organism action has been taken to have the milk heat treated or alternatively the cow has been removed from the herd. The Veterinary Service and Milk Officers of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food have been most helpful in co-operating in all our investigations.

#### EMPTY CLEANSED BOTTLES

It has been the practice for many years to provide a service covering the examination of empty cleansed bottles. It has obviously become necessary to extend this service to cover all dairymen who bottle milk and during the year 817 bottles were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination. Generally the condition of the bottles were found to be of a very high standard.

TABLE (A)

#### Licensed Pasteurising Plant Samples

	Number of samples taken	Number satisfactory	Percentage unsatisfactory
Pasteurised			
Bulk Bottled	51 681	51 665	— 2.3
	732	716	2.2
Sterilised	24	24	—

	Pasteurised
(1) Number failing Phosphatase test	6
(2) Number failing Methylene Blue test	9
(3) Number failing both tests (1) and (2)	1

TABLE (B)  
Licensed Dealers' Samples

	Number of samples taken	Number satisfactory	Percentage Unsatisfactory
Pasteurised	1,385	1,318	4.8
Sterilised	75	75	—
Tuberculin Tested	1,302	1,121	13.9
	2,762	2,514	9.0

	Pasteurised
(1) Number failing Phosphatase test	10
(2) Number failing Methylene Blue test	56
(3) Number failing both tests (1) and (2)	1

TABLE (C)  
Licensed Pasteurising Plants and Dealers' Samples

	Number of samples taken	Number satisfactory	Percentage Unsatisfactory
Pasteurised	2,117	2,034	3.9
Sterilised	99	99	—
Tuberculin Tested	1,302	1,121	13.9
	3,518	3,254	7.5

Pasteurised	
(1) Number failing Phosphatase test	16
(2) Number failing Methylene Blue test	65
(3) Number failing both tests (1) and (2)	2

#### ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH TALKS

During the year the County Health Inspector has arranged talks and film shows on Environmental Health for school meals staff, school children and members of Women's Organisations and these have been well supported.

#### ANIMAL HEALTH

The following details have been obtained from the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

	As at 31.12.61
(1) Approximate number of Attested cattle in County	375,104
(2) Number of herds Attested and for which "Tuberculin Tested" Licences have been granted	5,396
* (3) Number of herds Attested only     ...     ...     ...	2,831

\* NOTE: Of this last figure approximately 1,000 are "Beef" or store rearing herds, so that approximately 1,831 dairy herds are Attested without being "Tuberculin Tested".

### HOSPITAL FARMS

Samples taken on behalf of the Ministry of Health for bacteriological examination from the one remaining hospital farm numbered 26.

### MILK-IN-SCHOOLS SCHEME

Apart from a few complaints concerning either the keeping quality of the milk or dirty bottles, this Scheme has operated most efficiently during the year. All such complaints were immediately investigated, and, where necessary, the matter referred to the Dealer concerned.

Details concerning the number of schools taking milk, the number of regular milk drinkers and milk sample results are set out in Tables I to III below.

TABLE I

Type of School (1)	Total number of each type (2)	Type of milk supplied to Schools (October, 1961) with percentages			
		Past. (3)	% (4)	T.T. (5)	% (6)
Primary     ...     ...     ...	410	407	99.27	3	0.73
Secondary Modern     ...     ...	51	51	100.00	—	—
Secondary Grammar     ...	20	20	100.00	—	—
Secondary Technical     ...	3	3	100.00	—	—
Nursery     ...     ...     ...	2	2	100.00	—	—
Special Schools     ...     ...	4	4	100.00	—	—
<b>TOTALS</b>		490	487	99.39	3
Non-Maintained     ...     ...	124	122	98.39	2	1.61

TABLE II  
NO. OF REGULAR MILK DRINKERS

Type of School (1)	Number of children (20th October, 1961) (2)	Number of regular milk drinkers (3)
Primary ... ... ... ...	39,105	36,055
Secondary Modern ... ... ...	23,228	13,965
Secondary Grammar ... ...	8,037	4,571
Secondary Technical ... ...	415	233
Nursery ... ... ... ...	78	78
Special Schools ... ... ...	312	309
<b>TOTALS</b>		71,175
Non-Maintained ... ... ...		15,735
		13,177

NOTE: 2,849 gallons of milk consumed by 68,388 children each day.

SAMPLING OF MILK SUPPLIES TO SCHOOLS AND OTHER COUNTY COUNCIL ESTABLISHMENTS

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS — SAMPLES TAKEN IN 1961

	Pasteurised		T.T.		Total
	Sat.	Uns.	Sat.	Uns.	
Schools ... ... ...	594	14	48	4	660
School Kitchens ... ...	104	9	—	—	113
Self-Contained Canteens ...	254	13	17	3	287
Residential Nurseries, Day Nurseries and Children's Homes ... ... ...	95	6	21	—	122
Mental Health Training Centres ... ... ...	19	2	—	—	21
County Council Homes and Institutions ... ...	83	6	25	1	115
<b>TOTALS</b>		1,149	50	111	1,318

In addition to the above bacteriological examinations, the County Analyst examined 452 samples for fats and solids-not-fat. In one case the presumptive standard of 3.0% fat was not reached and one sample was below 8.5% solids-not-fat.

### ICE-CREAM

The following Table has been completed from the results of samples collected by local authorities.

### SAMPLES TAKEN

	Boroughs & Urbans		Rurals		Total	
	Number	% Sat.	Number	% Sat.	Number	% Sat.
Hot Mix	493	95.7	132	96.2	625	95.8
Cold Mix	17	100.0	4	100.0	21	100.0
TOTALS	510	95.9	136	96.3	646	96.0

### CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

#### PORTISHEAD URBAN

The analysis of grit deposit gauges and sulphur candles continued throughout the year and the Consultation Committee of the Portishead Urban District Council continues its periodic meetings with Messrs. Albright & Wilson to discuss complaints etc. A reasonable close liaison also exists between this Council and the Central Electricity Board concerning the two power stations in the District. Some complaints were received with regard to the burning of waste and sump oil but these were dealt with informally.

Some authorities are now giving advice to owners of properties under construction on recommended appliances for smokeless fuel.

TABLE 1.

POPULATION, BIRTHS AND DEATHS - MATERNAL AND CHILD WELFARE

## Registrar-General's Totals. Somerset 1951 - 61

Year	County Population	Live Births	Still Births	Total Births	Illegitimate Live Births	Maternal Deaths	Infant Deaths
1951	475,000	7,114	143	7,257	290	7	177
1952	477,600	6,907	154	7,061	261	7	173
1953	483,200	7,056	124	7,180	280	2	154
1954	485,000	6,948	143	7,091	276	2	157
1955	487,800	6,957	154	7,111	252	6	144
1956	491,600	7,085	179	7,164	270	5	143
1957	495,500	7,370	148	7,518	292	4	139
1958	496,900	7,539	157	7,696	247	3	157
1959	500,400	7,636	155	7,791	303	3	143
1960	507,270	8,095	145	8,240	345	0	160
1961	520,340	8,215	151	8,366	372	1	130
England and Wales							
1961	46,536,000	803,843	15,631	-	47,465	-	17,392

## Mid-year Estimated population (certain age groups) 1961

	Somerset
0 - 1	8,090
0 - 4	29,610
Total pre-school	37,700
5 - 14	79,600
Total 0 - 14	117,300

TABLE 2.  
BIRTHS AND DEATHS – MATERNAL AND CHILD WELFARE  
Registrar-General's Figures  
Rates for Somerset 1951 – 1961. England and Wales 1961

Year	Live Birth	Still Birth	Illegitimate Live birth %	Infant deaths	Neonatal deaths	First Week deaths	Perinatal deaths	Maternal deaths
1951	14.97	20.1	4.1	24.9	18.1	—	—	0.96
1952	14.46	22.3	3.8	25.0	18.3	—	—	0.99
1953	14.60	17.3	4.0	21.8	16.0	—	—	0.28
1954	14.33	20.1	4.0	22.6	16.5	—	—	0.28
1955	14.26	21.6	3.6	20.7	15.4	—	—	0.84
1956	14.41	24.6	3.8	20.2	15.4	—	*35.8	1.10
1957	14.87	19.7	3.8	18.9	14.7	—	*32.1	0.53
1958	15.17	20.4	3.3	20.8	14.5	11.5	31.7	0.26
1959	15.26	19.9	3.9	18.7	13.5	11.7	31.3	0.36
1960	15.9	17.6	4.3	19.8	14.8	13.2	30.4	0.0
1961	15.79	18.04	4.5	15.8	10.8	8.9	26.8	0.12
England and Wales								
1961	17.4	19.1	5.9	21.6	15.5	13.3	32.2	0.37

\* calculated

TABLE 3 PREMATURITY

## Premature births in Somerset 1958 - 1961

Year	Premature Live birth	Premature Still birth	First day death	Deaths 1 - 28 days	Total Deaths	Loss of life (S.B and 1st month)	Rate per 1,000 total premature births	28 day survival percentage
1958	429	82	42	18	60	142	27.8	72.2
1959	468	71	46	10	56	127	23.6	76.4
1960	463	77	40	16	56	133	24.2	87.9
1961	470	74	22	14	36	110	20.2	79.8

## Weight Groups

- (a) 3lbs. 4 ozs. or less
- (b) Over 3 lbs. 4 ozs. to 4 lbs. 6 ozs.
- (c) Over 4 lbs. 6 ozs. to 4 lbs. 15 ozs.
- (d) Over 4 lbs. 15 ozs. to 5 lbs. 8 ozs.

## Births and Survivors by Weight Groups

Proportion in each weight group  
Birth Weights - live born babies

	1958	1959	1960	1961
(a)	10.5%	11.8%	12.1%	11.1%
(b)	19.3%	19.7%	20.3%	18.5%
(c)	19.3%	18.8%	19.8%	21.7%
(d)	50.8%	49.7%	47.8%	48.7%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

	1958	1959	1960	1961
(a)	37.7	47.3	52.7	60
(b)	81.9	86.9	78.7	93.1
(c)	85.6	90.9	95.6	98
(d)	97.8	97.0	97.3	97.9

TABLE 4

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1961

Causes of Death	All Ages	Net deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District							
		Under 1 year	1 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and under 75 years	75 and upwards
Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	26	—	—	—	—	5	7	8	6
Tuberculosis, other ...	10	—	—	—	—	2	3	1	3
Syphilitic disease ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections ...	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	18	—	2	—	2	2	5	5	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	159	—	—	—	—	5	34	45	75
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	198	—	—	—	—	4	96	75	23
Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	134	—	—	—	—	13	61	26	34
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	44	—	—	—	—	2	20	11	11
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	586	1	—	3	1	25	183	190	183
Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	35	2	2	3	1	3	9	7	8
Diabetes ...	42	—	—	—	2	1	9	9	21
Vascular lesions of nervous system	1007	—	—	—	1	10	135	283	578
Coronary disease, angina ...	1061	—	—	—	—	12	239	389	421
Hypertension with heart disease	149	—	—	—	—	1	25	44	79
Other heart disease ...	992	—	—	—	1	13	80	193	705
Other circulatory disease ...	352	—	—	—	3	6	50	95	198
Influenza ...	91	—	—	—	—	6	15	30	40
Pneumonia ...	270	14	9	3	—	5	22	52	165
Bronchitis ...	267	3	2	1	—	3	39	86	133
Other disease of respiratory system	85	—	2	—	—	1	29	25	28
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	48	—	—	—	—	1	7	20	20
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	47	2	3	—	2	6	10	12	12
Nephritis and nephrosis ...	58	—	—	—	—	5	21	14	18
Hyperplasia of prostate ...	52	—	—	—	—	—	5	11	36
Pregnancy, Childbirth and abortion	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Congenital malformations ...	62	41	3	4	1	3	5	4	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	594	61	1	5	5	26	87	101	308
Motor vehicle accidents ...	80	—	3	6	22	12	24	6	7
All other accidents ...	116	5	8	9	7	14	17	10	46
Suicide ...	53	—	—	—	1	9	28	11	4
Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All Causes ...	6645	130	36	34	50	196	1266	1765	3168

TABLE 5

 CAUSES OF DEATH AT ALL AGES IN EACH DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR 1961  
 URBAN DISTRICTS

Causes of Death	Bridgwater	Burnham	Chard	Clevedon	Crewkeme	Frome	Glastonbury	Ilminster	Keynsham	Minehead	Norton-Radstock	Portishead	Shepton Mallet	Street	Taunton	Watchet	Wellington	Wells	Weston-super-Mare	Yeovil	TOTAL (Urban Districts)
Tuberculosis, respiratory	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	2	1	14
Tuberculosis, other ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	5
Syphilitic disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	7
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	11	4	—	11	2	4	8	—	2	5	1	1	4	2	5	1	2	—	15	9	87
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	11	4	2	2	—	6	—	5	4	3	3	—	2	—	19	1	5	1	21	10	99
Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	10	2	2	4	1	2	1	—	5	4	4	1	1	1	10	1	2	1	16	9	77
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	3	1	2	2	—	1	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	1	3	1	22
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	30	8	5	18	3	15	5	2	17	12	15	5	6	5	39	4	9	10	52	30	290
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	3	15
Diabetes ...	3	1	3	1	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	16
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	51	26	12	35	7	24	7	10	37	21	17	13	16	9	60	3	17	17	105	49	536
Coronary disease, angina	39	28	6	42	5	33	20	6	28	24	28	7	11	12	65	3	22	13	135	37	564
Hypertension with heart disease ...	10	2	2	5	3	2	—	2	8	1	6	7	2	—	9	1	7	—	10	5	82
Other heart disease ...	44	16	14	24	6	28	6	4	18	28	14	5	13	10	61	6	21	7	110	53	488
Other circulatory disease	18	19	2	8	4	9	1	—	3	7	6	1	—	5	30	1	8	3	19	16	160
Influenza ...	15	3	1	1	—	2	—	—	4	1	—	1	—	—	2	1	2	—	9	4	46
Pneumonia ...	10	4	2	3	2	12	—	—	1	2	6	6	2	2	14	2	2	3	28	8	109
Bronchitis ...	16	3	5	4	1	5	3	2	6	2	4	3	5	—	31	3	5	3	21	10	132
Other disease of respiratory system ...	4	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	9	2	1	—	2	—	1	1	10	5	40
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	4	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	11	2	26	
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	2	1	—	1	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	2	—	4	2	19	
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	1	—	1	3	1	—	—	4	2	2	—	2	—	5	—	1	1	7	5	37
Hyperplasia of prostate	3	1	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	8	1	26
Pregnancy, Childbirth and abortion ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Congenital malformations	2	1	2	—	1	2	—	—	1	2	1	2	—	1	6	—	5	—	7	4	37
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	41	9	17	15	4	15	1	1	11	7	7	5	7	4	38	4	15	34	56	15	306
Motor vehicle accidents	5	2	—	2	2	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	5	—	1	—	13	3	38
All other accidents ...	8	4	1	3	—	4	3	—	4	2	6	2	3	1	5	—	1	—	9	3	59
Suicide ...	3	1	1	1	—	3	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	4	8	4	32
Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All Causes ...	351	145	81	188	45	179	56	33	162	136	134	61	79	54	423	32	131	105	687	290	3372

TABLE 6

 CAUSES OF DEATH AT ALL AGES IN EACH DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR 1961  
 RURAL DISTRICTS

Causes of Death	Axbridge	Bathavon	Bridgwater	Chard	Clutton	Dulverton	Frome	Langport	Long Ashton	Shepton Mallet	Taunton	Wellington	Wells	Williton	Wincanton	Yeovil	TOTAL (Rural Districts)	COUNTY TOTAL
Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	1	1	3	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	1	—	2	1	—	—	12	26
Tuberculosis, other ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	1	5	10
Syphilitic disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	5
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Meningococcal infections ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	2
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	1	2	2	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	11	18
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	11	5	6	3	4	1	2	5	7	2	5	3	3	3	3	9	72	159
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	15	12	11	5	8	—	5	3	8	4	8	3	4	5	5	3	99	198
Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	8	3	—	—	3	2	3	—	7	2	6	3	2	5	5	8	57	134
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	1	—	2	2	—	1	—	1	2	1	3	1	—	1	1	6	22	44
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	29	25	25	20	18	6	12	19	33	4	37	9	14	14	12	19	296	586
Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	2	3	—	1	—	—	—	2	4	1	1	—	—	2	4	20	35	—
Diabetes ...	3	2	2	1	3	—	2	—	—	1	1	—	2	4	3	2	26	42
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	61	31	35	27	31	5	16	29	49	16	42	20	21	26	26	36	471	1007
Coronary disease, angina ...	58	27	36	20	44	5	18	19	69	19	47	17	24	29	32	33	497	1061
Hypertension with heart disease ...	5	5	3	5	8	3	4	2	9	3	4	5	3	—	5	3	67	149
Other heart disease ...	69	32	48	27	37	6	20	16	31	23	48	15	39	25	35	33	504	992
Other circulatory disease ...	17	12	18	3	12	1	7	12	22	6	13	1	13	8	17	30	192	352
Influenza ...	10	5	5	—	6	—	—	1	3	2	2	3	3	1	4	—	45	91
Pneumonia ...	17	14	7	7	9	2	7	7	17	7	24	3	15	5	7	13	161	270
Bronchitis ...	9	11	12	9	7	2	7	6	11	4	16	2	4	16	14	5	135	267
Other disease of respiratory system ...	8	6	3	—	6	—	4	1	4	—	5	3	—	—	3	2	45	85
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	3	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	2	1	3	4	1	22	48
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	2	2	2	3	1	—	—	—	2	2	3	3	1	2	2	3	28	47
Nephritis and nephrosis ...	6	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	1	1	2	3	21	58
Hyperplasia of prostate ...	5	—	—	4	—	—	1	1	1	—	3	1	2	4	2	2	26	52
Pregnancy, Childbirth and abortion ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital malformations ...	3	1	2	—	3	—	2	2	1	—	4	3	1	1	1	1	25	62
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	28	18	24	10	17	1	8	18	27	7	36	12	20	23	25	14	288	594
Motor vehicle accidents ...	8	2	2	—	2	—	2	3	7	1	2	—	2	6	2	3	42	80
All other accidents ...	6	2	3	—	8	—	3	3	6	3	2	2	6	1	8	4	57	116
Suicide ...	4	3	—	1	4	—	—	1	—	1	4	—	1	1	1	—	21	53
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All Causes ...	389	226	256	152	233	35	125	152	328	112	319	113	184	188	223	238	3273	6645

TABLE 7

TABLE SHOWING, FOR EACH URBAN DISTRICT, THE NUMBER OF BIRTHS, AND DEATHS, THE NUMBER OF DEATHS OF INFANTS, ALSO THE BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE, AND RATE OF INFANTILE MORTALITY

Urban Districts	Births	Deaths	Deaths under 1 year	Popu-lation	Crude Birth Rate	Adjusted Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Adjusted Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate
Bridgwater ...	480	351	10	25,580	18.76	17.82	13.72	12.63	20.84
Burnham ...	140	145	1	9,890	14.16	16.00	14.67	10.55	7.14
Chard ...	94	81	3	5,920	15.88	15.24	13.69	10.95	31.92
Clevedon ...	139	188	1	10,700	12.99	14.03	17.57	12.13	7.19
Crewkerne ...	55	45	1	4,240	12.97	13.75	10.61	9.55	18.18
Frome ...	207	179	4	11,490	18.01	19.63	15.58	11.84	19.32
Glastonbury ...	93	56	—	5,770	16.12	14.83	9.70	9.41	00.00
Ilminster ...	43	33	—	2,770	15.52	15.52	11.91	8.85	00.00
Keynsham ...	278	162	2	15,140	18.36	15.97	10.70	11.34	7.19
Minehead ...	75	136	4	7,490	10.01	11.41	18.16	11.08	53.35
Norton-Radstock	227	134	2	12,790	17.74	18.45	10.47	10.58	8.81
Portishead ...	113	61	2	6,490	17.42	16.90	9.40	9.77	17.70
Shepton Mallet	82	79	—	5,550	14.78	15.07	14.23	11.81	00.00
Street ...	100	54	—	6,830	14.64	14.06	7.91	7.75	00.00
Taunton ...	570	423	9	36,130	15.78	15.62	11.70	11.00	15.79
Watchet ...	48	32	2	2,590	18.53	19.45	12.35	11.24	41.67
Wellington ...	102	131	3	7,670	13.29	14.63	17.08	13.67	29.41
Wells ...	102	105	1	6,750	15.11	15.26	15.55	10.42	9.80
Weston-super-Mare	555	687	12	42,450	13.07	14.78	16.18	11.49	21.62
Yeovil ...	375	290	10	24,450	15.33	15.64	11.86	11.39	26.67
<b>TOTAL of Urban Districts</b>	<b>3878</b>	<b>3372</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>250,690</b>	<b>15.47</b>	<b>15.93</b>	<b>13.45</b>	<b>11.30</b>	<b>17.28</b>

TABLE 8

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TABLE SHOWING, FOR EACH RURAL DISTRICT, THE NUMBER OF BIRTHS, AND DEATHS, THE NUMBER OF DEATHS OF INFANTS, ALSO THE BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE, AND RATE OF INFANTILE MORTALITY

Rural Districts	Births	Deaths	Deaths under 1 year	Popu-lation	Crude Birth Rate	Adjusted Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Adjusted Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate
Axbridge ...	438	389	7	30,830	14.21	15.20	12.62	11.86	15.98
Bathavon ...	333	226	4	20,680	16.10	16.90	10.92	9.83	12.01
Bridgwater ...	407	256	7	21,950	18.55	20.03	11.66	10.73	17.20
Chard ...	153	152	2	12,290	12.45	13.32	12.37	11.50	13.07
Clutton ...	280	233	4	17,890	15.65	16.28	13.02	11.99	14.29
Dulverton ...	62	35	—	4,330	14.32	16.32	8.08	7.84	00.00
Frome ...	163	125	5	10,900	14.96	16.01	11.47	10.77	30.68
Langport ...	198	152	5	13,290	14.97	16.32	11.44	9.61	25.25
Long Ashton	565	328	5	29,130	19.39	19.39	11.27	11.49	8.85
Shepton Mallet	149	112	1	10,490	14.20	15.91	10.68	8.86	6.71
Taunton ...	346	319	7	22,470	15.40	17.86	14.20	11.36	20.23
Wellington ...	145	113	3	8,110	17.88	20.38	13.93	12.27	20.68
Wells ...	175	184	2	10,550	16.59	19.07	17.44	9.94	11.43
Williton ...	188	188	2	14,110	13.32	15.46	13.32	10.26	10.64
Wincanton ...	268	223	4	16,620	16.13	17.89	13.42	10.07	14.93
Yeovil ...	467	238	5	26,010	17.95	19.03	9.15	9.88	10.82
<b>TOTAL of Rural Districts</b>	<b>4337</b>	<b>3273</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>269,650</b>	<b>16.08</b>	<b>17.37</b>	<b>12.13</b>	<b>10.92</b>	<b>14.52</b>
<b>Administrative County</b>	<b>8215</b>	<b>6645</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>520,340</b>	<b>15.79</b>	<b>16.58</b>	<b>12.77</b>	<b>11.11</b>	<b>15.82</b>
<b>England and Wales 1961</b>					<b>17.4</b>		<b>12.0</b>		<b>21.4</b>

TABLE 9

## NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

		Measles	Scarlet Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Meningococcal Infection	Dysentery	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Poliomyelitis	Erysipelas	Food Poisoning	Tuberculosis - Pulmonary	Tuberculosis - Non-Pulmonary
<b>URBAN DISTRICTS</b>													
Bridgwater	...	611	4	—	1	—	32	7	—	3	33	14	1
Burnham...	...	129	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	3
Chard	...	10	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	2	2
Clevedon	...	223	—	4	1	—	15	1	—	—	6	1	1
Crewkeme	...	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2
Frome	...	287	—	2	—	—	3	2	4	1	1	13	13
Glastonbury	...	35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Ilminster	...	7	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Keynsham	...	348	3	—	1	—	32	—	—	—	—	6	6
Minehead	...	347	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	3
Norton-Radstock	...	289	3	—	—	—	28	4	—	—	6	3	3
Portishead	...	120	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	4	4
Shepton Mallet	...	46	5	3	—	—	8	2	—	—	1	1	1
Street	...	221	1	1	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Taunton	...	581	9	—	1	6	20	4	—	4	5	8	3
Watchet	...	10	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	—
Wellington	...	56	6	—	—	—	5	5	—	2	—	1	1
Wells	...	10	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	3	1
Weston-super-Mare	...	965	6	9	—	—	65	2	—	1	14	17	1
Yeovil	...	489	3	3	2	—	31	4	—	2	—	8	4
<b>RURAL DISTRICTS</b>													
Axbridge	...	442	8	—	—	—	29	13	—	2	—	11	2
Bathavon	...	512	5	1	—	2	19	18	—	2	—	8	2
Bridgwater	...	516	6	—	—	1	33	6	—	1	—	11	2
Chard	...	98	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	1	3	—
Clutton	...	297	7	—	—	—	1	7	—	5	—	8	2
Dulverton	...	33	—	—	—	—	11	7	—	—	—	—	—
Frome	...	192	3	—	—	—	45	8	—	—	—	6	6
Langport	...	264	13	—	1	8	10	12	—	—	—	3	—
Long Ashton	...	790	10	—	—	17	39	10	—	1	7	6	6
Shepton Mallet	...	107	1	—	—	—	32	11	—	1	—	7	1
Taunton	...	382	10	2	—	—	28	—	—	1	—	9	3
Wellington	...	71	2	—	—	—	15	1	—	2	—	1	1
Wells	...	53	1	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	6	—
Williton	...	320	1	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	3	1
Wincanton	...	263	3	—	—	—	76	23	—	1	1	3	2
Yeovil	...	615	13	1	—	1	66	13	—	—	—	4	2
Urban Districts	...	4792	43	29	6	13	252	36	6	13	66	91	13
Rural Districts...	...	4955	83	8	1	30	412	130	—	16	9	89	24
Administrative County		9747	126	37	7	43	664	166	6	29	75	180	37
Comparative Figures for 1960	...	868	285	28	6	195	455	174	6	36	18	184	39

TABLE 9 (continued)

Acute Encephalitis	- Weston-super-Mare Borough: 1	Shepton Mallet Urban: 1
	- Bridgwater Rural: 1	Portishead Urban: 1
Gastro Enteritis	- Bridgwater Rural: 1	
Chicken Pox	- Bridgwater Rural: 2	Bridgwater Borough: 2
Rubella	- Bridgwater Rural: 2	Bridgwater Borough: 3
"Q" Fever	- Williton Rural: 1	
Typhoid Fever	- Norton-Radstock Urban: 1	